

Ahmadinejad's Cool Reception

DEEPTI HAJELA

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Whenever Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad comes to New York, protesters pay attention. They know where he's staying. They stand outside the building when he makes a speech, holding signs calling him a dictator and comparing him to Adolf Hitler.

"We want him to see he's



Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad flashes a victory sign in Tehran, Iran, previous to his trip to the United Nations General Assembly in New York City. (AP Photo/Vahid Salemi)

not welcome here," said Nathan Carleton, spokesman for United Against Nuclear Iran, which is gearing up for Ahmadinejad's arrival this weekend for the United Nations General Assembly. Ahmadinejad, who is scheduled to make a speech at the UN on Wednesday, is expected to stay for the second straight year at the posh Warwick New York Hotel. A spokesman for the hotel did not confirm whether the leader would be staying there.

Continued on Page 3

Propheteering



Anti-Islamic blogger Pamela Geller, speaks at a conference she organized entitled; "Stop Islamization of America," in New York. An advertising campaign initiated by Geller's group, "The American Freedom Defense Initiative," will have its ads that equate foes of Israel with "savages" appearing in 10 New York City subway stations after a federal judge ordered the Metropolitan Transportation Authority to put them up.

(AP Photo/David Karp)

Anti-jihad 'savage' ads to run in NYC subways

KAREN MATTHEWS

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A provocative ad that equates some Muslim radicals with

savages is set to go up next week in the New York City subway system, just as violent protests in the Middle East over an anti-Islamic film

ridiculing the Prophet Muhammad. A conservative blogger who once headed a campaign against an Islamic center near the Sept.

11 terror attack site won a court order to post the ad in 10 subway stations on Monday.

Continued on Page 2



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Anti-jihad 'savage' ads to run in NYC subways

Continued from front

It reads, "In any war between the civilized man and the savage, support the civilized man. Support Israel. Defeat Jihad."

The ad was plastered on San Francisco city buses in recent weeks — prompting some artists to deface the ads and remove some of the words, including "Jihad." The blogger, Pamela Geller, said she filed suit Thursday in the nation's capital to post the ad in Washington's transit system, after officials declined to put up the ad in light of the uproar in the Middle East over the anti-Islam film. Abdul Yasar, a New York subway rider who considers himself an observant Muslim, said Geller's ad was insensitive in an unsettling climate for Muslims.

"If you don't want to see what happened in Libya and Egypt after the video — maybe not so strong

here in America — you shouldn't put this up," Yasar said.

But "if this is a free country, they have the right to do this," he said. "And then Muslims have the right to put up their own ad."

Geller, executive director of the American Freedom Defense Initiative and publisher of a blog called Atlas Shrugs, called a New York judge's order allowing the ads "a victory for the First Amendment" and said she wasn't concerned that her ad could spark protests like the ones protesting the depiction of Muslims in the video "Innocence of Muslims." Violence linked to the movie has left at least 30 people in seven countries dead, including the American ambassador to Libya.

"If it's not a film it's a cartoon, if it's not a cartoon it's a teddy bear," she said. "What are you going to do? Are you going to reward Islamic extremism? I will not

sacrifice my freedom so as not to offend savages."

New York City police aren't anticipating adding any security to subways when the ads go up and have received no threats or reports of violence relating to them, chief spokesman Paul Browne said.

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority in New York initially refused to run Geller's ad, saying it was "demeaning." But U.S. District Court Judge Paul Engelmayer ruled last month that it is protected speech under the First Amendment.

"Our hands are tied," MTA spokesman Aaron Donovan said. "Under our existing ad standards as modified by the injunction, the MTA is required to run the ad."

Donna Lieberman, executive director of the New York Civil Liberties Union, backed publication of the "patently offensive" ads. □

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An example of an advertisement that equates foes of Israel with "savages" is shown. Pamela Geller, the anti-Islamic blogger behind the ad campaign, said she is not concerned that the advertisements could spark protests when they appear at 10 New York City subway stations on Sept. 24, 2012.

(AP Photo/Pamela Geller)

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Iran slams Israel's nuke program as Israel outs Iran's

GEORGE JAHN
Associated Press

VIENNA (AP) — Israel accused its archenemy Iran on Thursday of being the biggest threat to the Middle East, as the Jewish state sought to deflect pressure at a U.N. nuclear meeting over its own undeclared possession of nuclear weapons.

In addition to reflecting the tensions between Israel and Iran that could lead to an armed conflict, the sharply worded debate was a reminder of the divide between Muslim nations and the West over which of the two nations' nuclear programs is the biggest threat to Mideast peace.

The United States and its allies accuse Tehran of trying to develop the capacity to make nuclear weapons and say such strivings are the greatest menace to the region.

But Iran — which denies any interest in such weaponry — says Israel's undeclared atomic arsenal is the most serious threat. That view is shared by Arab nations, which may fear any perceived attempt by Iran to develop nuclear arms, but share with Tehran the common Muslim stance of denouncing the Jewish state as the greatest nuclear danger. □

Protests surround Ahmadinejad's NYC visit

Continued from front

The hotel didn't confirm his stay there last year, either. As they did last year, members of United Against Nu-

to provide luxury accommodations for a man who denies the Holocaust and says the U.S. orchestrated the Sept. 11 attacks, and who has also come under

the business of any delegation to the UN General Assembly," he said.

A representative of the Warwick did not comment. An Israeli legal group rep-

Hersh, now living in Israel, survived a 1997 suicide bombing and sued Iran for damages, accusing the country of supporting Islamic Hamas, which staged the attack. He lost part of his hearing and slurs his speech since the blast.

"We haven't been able to collect anything. So as far as I'm concerned, it's a matter of justice," Hersh said. Nitsana Darshan-Leitner, the law center's director, said Ahmadinejad has the right as a world leader to speak at the UN but that "does not give any rights to any war criminal to walk around New York and engage with other businesses that have nothing to do with the United Nations."

A federal judge on Thursday denied the motion, saying a room reservation is not property and can't be used to fulfill a legal judgment.

Christopher DeVito, executive director of the advocacy group Iran180, said the organization will have a protest at Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza on Wednesday when Ahmadinejad is scheduled to speak. Iran180 wants a change in Iran's nuclear and human rights policies.

It was unclear what events, if any, outside of his UN appearance are on Ahmadinejad's schedule, but in previous years, they haven't been exempt from protest either, as in 2007, when he spoke at Columbia University. □



A visitor looks at portraits of Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad left and Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, during the exhibition *Faces of Power*, by Greek photo artist Platon Antoniou, Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2012.

(AP Photo / Martin Meissner)

clear Iran will be protesting outside and inside, reserving a room in hopes of taking their outrage as close to Ahmadinejad and his entourage as possible.

"We had people walking around the hotel wearing shirts with his face crossed out on them," Carleton said. The group is working to prevent Iran from getting nuclear weapons.

The anger extends to the hotel itself. United Against Nuclear Iran and several prominent Jewish groups had urged the Warwick not

criticism for Iran's repressive treatment of its people and its support of groups like Hamas. "No more than you would host in your home a criminal, why would you make it easy here for a rogue regime?" said Daniel Mariaschin, executive vice president of B'nai B'rith International, the Jewish human rights advocacy group. The organization has sent letters to the Warwick asking that it not let Ahmadinejad stay there.

"U.S. businesses are under no obligation to accept

resenting a New Yorker injured in a suicide bombing who later won a \$12 million judgment against Iran is going further — filing legal papers asking that the Warwick turn over any money paid by Iran for the delegation's hotel rooms.

In the motion filed last week in federal court in Manhattan, Shurat HaDin Israel Law Center had demanded that the Warwick either refuse to let Ahmadinejad stay, or hand over Ahmadinejad's hotel fees to its client, Stuart Hersh.

U.S. Briefs

Sex abuse claims erupt from Tulsa megachurch

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — A 17,000-member megachurch deep in Oklahoma's Bible Belt has been rattled by allegations that five employees waited two weeks to report the rape of a 13-year-old girl in a campus stairwell, allegedly by a church worker. Tulsa police say the girl is among at least three victims of alleged sex crimes by two former employees of Victory Christian Center who face criminal charges. A child crimes investigator says more victims could surface as police continue to investigate. Authorities, however, fear some parishioners in the large, tight-knit south Tulsa congregation may choose to pray about the allegations rather than provide concrete evidence.

Man charged with trying to blow up a Chicago bar

CHICAGO (AP) — A federal judge has refused bond to a suburban Chicago man charged with trying to bomb a downtown bar, contending he is a danger to the community. The U.S. attorney's office says Adel Daoud was indicted Thursday on charges of attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction and attempting to damage or destroy a building by means of an explosive. Daoud, who turns 19 on Friday, was arrested last week after authorities said he tried to trigger a fake mechanism set up by the FBI as a part of a sting. Court documents say Daoud told an undercover agent he was pursuing the attack because the U.S. was at war "with Islam and Muslims." Daoud was denied bond during a court hearing Thursday.

3 Mile Island nuclear plant automatically shuts down

MIDDLETOWN, Pennsylvania (AP) — A malfunctioning pump at the site of the worst nuclear power plant accident in U.S. history has triggered an automatic shutdown. Thursday's shutdown at Pennsylvania's Three Mile Island was the second in as many months. Government regulators and plant officials say it poses no threat to public health or safety. Operator Exelon Generation Co. says no detectable levels of radiation escaped. The failure of a coolant pump tripped a computerized system that shuts down the reactor. The plant also automatically shut down Aug. 22 while operators were manually shutting it down for repairs. The plant is named after the island where it's located in the Susquehanna River. It had a partial meltdown of a reactor in 1979.

Wisconsin woman is guilty in her fetal-abduction case

MILWAUKEE (AP) — A woman who confessed to trying to steal a baby by attacking a pregnant woman and slicing out her full-term fetus was convicted Thursday of killing them both. Jurors deliberated for less than two hours before finding Annette Morales-Rodriguez guilty of two counts of first-degree intentional homicide in the October 2011 deaths of the mother and fetus. A key piece of evidence during the trial was a videotaped police interview in which Morales-Rodriguez described her attack on 23-year-old Maritza Ramirez-Cruz. She admitted luring Ramirez-Cruz to her home, bludgeoning and choking her into unconsciousness and using a small blade to carve out the fetus.

Sixteen Amish guilty of hate crimes in Ohio beard attacks

THOMAS J. SHEERAN

Associated Press

CLEVELAND (AP) — Sixteen Amish men and women were convicted Thursday of hate crimes for a series of hair- and beard-cutting attacks on fellow sect members in a religious dispute that offered a rare and sometimes lurid glimpse into the closed and usually self-regulating community of believers.

A federal jury found 66-year-old Samuel Mullet Sr., the leader of the break-

women surrounded their mother-in-law and cut off two 2 feet (2/3 meters) of her hair, taking it down to the scalp in some places. Prosecutors say they targeted hair because it carries spiritual significance in their faith.

The defendants face prison terms of 10 years or more at their Jan. 24 sentencing. Prosecutors plan to file a request Friday to revoke bond for defendants who had remained free pending trial.

to be left to practice their religion in peace," U.S. Attorney Steven Dettelbach said. "Unfortunately, the defendants denied them this basic right and they did so in the most violent way." Members of the Amish community who sat through the trial hurried into a hired van without commenting, some covering their faces. Defense attorneys said the defendants were bewildered by the verdicts and said likely appeals would be based on a challenge to the hate crimes law.

"They really don't understand the court system the way the rest of us have, being educated and reading newspapers," said Joseph Dubyak, whose client, Linda Schrock, has 10 children with her husband, who was also convicted.

Rhonda Kotnik, representing Kathryn Miller, said the verdicts would destroy Mullet's community of about 25 families. The defendants, including six couples, have a total of about 50 children, she said.

"The community is going to be ripped apart. I don't know what's going to happen to all their children," she said. The suspects had argued that the Amish are bound by different rules guided by their religion and that the government had no place getting involved in what amounted to a family or church dispute.

Mullet wasn't accused of cutting anyone's hair. But prosecutors said he planned and encouraged his sons and the others, mocked the victims in jailhouse phone calls and was given a paper bag stuffed with the hair of one victim. One bishop told jurors his chest-length beard was chopped to within 1½ inches (3.8 centimeters) of his chin when four or five men dragged him out of his farmhouse in a late-night home invasion. Prosecutors told jurors that Mullet thought he was above the law and free to discipline those who went against him based on his religious beliefs.



An Amish man boards his transportation vehicle outside the U.S. Federal Courthouse in Cleveland on Thursday, Sept. 20, 2012. The jury found all 16 Amish people guilty in the hair- and beard-cutting attacks against fellow Amish in Ohio. (AP Photo/Scott R. Galvin)

away group, guilty of orchestrating the cuttings last fall in an attempt to shame mainstream members of his community who he believed were straying from their beliefs. His followers were found guilty of carrying out the attacks, which terrorized the normally peaceful religious settlement that aims to live simply and piously.

Prosecutors and witnesses described how sons pulled their father out of bed and chopped off his beard in the moonlight and how

All the defendants are members of Mullet's settlement that he founded in eastern Ohio near the West Virginia panhandle. The Amish eschew many conveniences of modern life, including electrical appliances and automobiles, and embrace their centuries-old roots.

Federal officials said the verdicts would send a message about religious intolerance. "The victims in this case are members of a peaceful and traditional religion who simply wanted



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Minus the red hair:

James Holmes back in court over notebook

P. SOLOMON BANDA
Associated Press
CENTENNIAL, Colorado (AP) — For the first time with hair that's brown instead of a wild shade of orangish-red, the suspect in Colorado's movie theater shooting that left 12 people dead appeared in court Thursday as prosecutors gave up their fight to see a notebook he sent to a university psychiatrist, saying they didn't want to delay proceedings. James Holmes appeared more animated during the hearing. He smiled and glanced around the courtroom, looking at his lawyers and reporters covering the hearing. He appeared to be moving his mouth but not actually talking. Defense attorneys say Hol-

mes is mentally ill and that the notebook, sent to Dr. Lynne Fenton, shouldn't be released because of doctor-patient privilege. Fenton last saw Holmes professionally on June 11 before seeing him again in court on Aug. 30. Prosecutors argued that the notebook and its contents are fair game. He planned to be dead or in prison after the shooting rampage at an opening night showing of "The Dark Knight Rises," they said, and had no plans to undergo therapy. But Deputy District Attorney Rich Orman said even if prosecutors convinced the judge the notebook isn't protected, defense attorneys would likely appeal the decision. "We still think we have good

and compelling evidence that the notebook should not be privileged," Orman said, adding that because of possible delays, "we're not asking to look at it." If Holmes' mental health becomes an issue in the case, Orman said Holmes would have to waive privilege and prosecutors likely would gain access to the notebook, which remains in the custody of the court. Arapahoe County District Judge William B. Sylvester approved a procedure for Holmes' defense team to examine the notebook, which includes having a police officer present in the room. "His notebook, his sketches, his drawings, everything should be made public so we can learn from it and

prevent this from happening again," said Greg Medek, whose daughter Micayla, 23, died in the shooting. "He's just putting on a show. I don't think he's crazy. He's just evil."

Holmes has been charged with 142 counts, including murder and attempted murder, stemming from the July 20 attack at an Aurora theater that killed 12 and wounded 58 others.

Chick-fil-A revamps controversy

BILL BARROW
Associated Press
ATLANTA (AP) — Chick-fil-A gave another statement about recent reports that it will stop giving money to groups that oppose gay marriage, but the company did not make any clearer Thursday whether it was still funding them. The company's response, its second in as many days, was posted on its website after Chicago Alderman Joe Moreno announced the alleged policy change. Moreno said the change followed extended negotiations, and as a result, he would no longer try to block a Chick-fil-A restaurant from opening in his district.



Chick-fil-A president Dan Cathy.
(AP Photo/Stamley Leary)

The Georgia-based company's said its corporate giving had for many months been mischaracterized. "A part of our corporate commitment is to be responsible stewards of all that God has entrusted to us. Because of this commit-

ment, Chick-fil-A's giving heritage is focused on programs that educate youth, strengthen families and enrich marriages, and support communities" the statement said. "We will continue to focus our giving in those areas. Our intent is not to support political or social agendas." It did not say whether that includes gay marriages. The company's president, Dan Cathy, set off a furor this summer when he reaffirmed his opposition to same-sex marriage. Long lines formed outside Chick-fil-A restaurants on an "appreciation day" and opponents countered with "kiss-ins" by same-sex couples at assorted locations.

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Police: Abused Ga. teen exiled to Calif. with \$200

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A scrawny Georgia teen who was discovered at a bus station told police his abusive stepfather gave him \$200 and a list of homeless shelters before he was put on a bus to Los Angeles on this 18th birthday, authorities said Thursday.

Retired Los Angeles police Sgt. Joe Gonzalez was working security at a downtown bus station Sept. 11 when he spotted Mitch Comer, who stood just over 5 feet tall, weighed 87 pounds and looked much younger, LAPD said in a news release Thursday.

Comer told Gonzalez his stepfather declared that he was now a man before putting the teen on a bus.

Because he was so childlike, police worried that he wasn't as old as he claimed and decided to investigate further. The teen told authorities he had suffered years of abuse after being taken out of school in the eighth grade.

Confined to a room with little food, Comer said he had two younger sisters that he had almost never seen.

Authorities in Los Angeles contacted law enforcement in Georgia, where Paulding County sheriff's deputies had to track down Comer's stepfather, Paul Comer, and mother, Sheila Marie Comer, because the isolated teen didn't know his address.

Illinois man convicted of killing family on road trip

MICHAEL TARM

Associated Press

JOLIET, Ill. (AP) — Jurors deliberated for less than an hour Thursday before convicting a suburban Chicago man of fatally shooting his wife and three children during what he told them was a road trip to a water park.

Christopher Vaughn shot his family, including one of his daughters as she clutched a stuffed animal, because he saw them as obstacles to his dream of starting a new, isolated life in the Canadian wilderness, prosecutors told jurors before they withdrew to deliberate.

Vaughn hunched forward as jurors re-entered the Joliet courtroom, but the 37-year-old displayed no visible emotion as their verdict was read. Sitting nearby, his wife's sister smiled and cried quietly, and later in a courtroom hall, family members wept as they fell into each other's arms.

"This case is not just a murder, it's an atrocity," Will County States Attorney James Glasgow said outside the courthouse. "To annihilate your family, I can't think of a more unspeakable crime."

Glasgow noted that each child was shot in the chest and head, and said Vaughn's lack of emotion was the mark of "a psychopath."

Jury foreman Dan Lashat said jurors believed Vaughn's odd and inappropriate demeanor strongly suggested he killed his family. The jurors were later applauded by relatives of Vaughn's wife as they walked to a nearby restaurant.

Judge denies request to stop anti-Muslim film clip

GREG RISLING

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — An actress who appeared in an anti-Muslim film trailer that sparked violence in the Middle East lost her legal challenge on Thursday to have the 14-minute trailer taken down from YouTube.

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Luis Lavin rejected the request from Cindy Lee Garcia because she wasn't able to produce any agreement she had with the makers of "Innocence of Muslims" and the man behind the film hadn't been served with a copy of her lawsuit.

Garcia's attorney, Cris Armenta, told reporters that her client plans to return to court in three weeks with more evidence to bolster her case.

The video posted to YouTube has been linked to protests that continue to rage across the Middle East. The White House has asked YouTube to take it down and the company has refused, saying it doesn't violate its content standards.

While Thursday's legal ruling might further antagonize protesters, the lawsuit had little chance of succeeding because of a federal law that protects third parties from liability for content they handle, legal experts said.

Jeremiah Reynolds, a Los Angeles attorney who specializes in intellectual property and First Amendment cases, said: "I think they hoped the judge would have enough sympathy for this woman to have him take the video down."

Garcia is suing for fraud

and slander against Internet search giant Google, which owns YouTube, and Nakoula Basseley Nakoula, the man behind the video who has gone into hiding since it rose to prominence last week.

The 14-minute trailer depicts Muhammad as a womanizer, religious fraud and child molester.

Garcia claimed she was

(legal) analysis should be the same," Reynolds said. "It's an act that is protected by the First Amendment."

Cindy Cohen, the legal director for San Francisco-based Electronic Frontier Foundation, said Garcia does have a claim against the filmmaker but not against Google.

"The law protects Google



Cindy Lee Garcia, right, one of the actresses in "Innocence of Muslims," and attorney M. Cris Armenta hold a news conference at the Los Angeles Superior Court in Los Angeles, Thursday, Sept. 20, 2012. Garcia lost her legal challenge on Thursday to have the 14-minute trailer taken down from YouTube.

(AP Photo/Jason Redmond)

duped by Nakoula and that the script she saw referenced neither Muslims nor Muhammad. She also said her voice had been dubbed over after filming. Her lawsuit mirrors similar claims made by those who said they were fooled by actor Sacha Baron Cohen during the making of "Borat" and "Bruno." The British comedian was unsuccessfully sued by some non-actors who appeared in his movie who weren't familiar with his outlandish characters.

"Although this is a much more serious situation, the

here because they aren't the producers of the film," Cohen said. "You don't want a situation where the host is responsible for the content. Then nobody would ever be a host."

Garcia's lawsuit contends that keeping the film online violates her right of publicity, invades her privacy rights and that post-filming dialogue changes cast her in a false light.

"I think we need to take it (the film) off because it will continue to cause more problems," she said. "I think it's demoralizing, degrading."

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Fate of congress' inquiry in gun case now unclear

CHARLIE SAVAGE

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WASHINGTON — Republicans and Democrats sparred Thursday over whether a new report by

for contempt for refusing to turn over the materials. But the new report quoted from the emails at length, and the Justice Department on Wednesday gave Congress

cess, it goes a long way toward that," Issa said, adding, "Some materials contained in this report do help us because they are, in fact, many of the items that we wish we had received."

The ranking Democrat, Rep. Elijah Cummings of Maryland, said the disclosures raised the possibility of resolving "any lingering issues without further conflict."

"With this action by the department, I urge the committee to reconsider its position and settle the remnants of this dispute without resorting to unnecessary and costly litigation that nobody in this country wants," he said.

But there were also signs of a continuing appetite by some Republicans to keep the investigation going. Several noted that the inspector general had not interviewed a handful of potential witnesses who do not work for the Justice Department.

Fast and Furious was an investigation from late 2009 to

early 2011 into an Arizona-based gun-trafficking ring linked to a Mexican drug gang. During its course, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

agents used the tactic of gun-walking — not interdicting illegal weapons in hope of identifying more criminals and building a bigger case. □



Rep. Darrell Issa (R-Calif.), chairman of the House Committee on Government and Oversight Reform during a hearing of the committee on Capitol Hill in Washington, Sept. 20, 2012. The committee met Thursday to discuss a report by the Justice Department's inspector general about Operation Fast and Furious, a botched gun-trafficking case.

(Luke Sharrett/The New York Times)

the Justice Department's inspector general about the botched gun-tracking case known as Operation Fast and Furious meant that it was time for lawmakers to start wrapping up their own investigation.

Members of both parties on the House oversight committee, which has been deeply divided during a long inquiry into the matter, praised the 471-page report by the inspector general, Michael E. Horowitz, as comprehensive and fair — even as each side sought vindication in different aspects of his findings.

A major outstanding issue is a lawsuit by the House over a subpoena for internal Justice Department emails from 2011, after the operation had ended. The chairman of the committee, Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif., engineered a House vote this summer to cite Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr.

more than 300 pages that it cited. "Although this report will not bring a complete end to the need for us to work with Justice to bring genuine reform to their pro-

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matinee: 12:15		PG	matinee: 2:45		PG		
PREMIUM RUSH	daily: 5:00			PREMIUM RUSH	daily: 5:15		
matinee: 5:00		PG-13	matinee: 2:45		PG-13		
THE POSSESSION	daily: 5:00	7:15	9:30	THE POSSESSION	daily: 10:00		
late show: 11:45		PG-13	late show: 12:00		PG-13		
HIT AND RUN	daily: 7:15	9:30		HIT AND RUN NED	daily: 7:30	9:45	
late show: 11:45		R	late show: 12:00		R		
THE COLD LIGHT OF DAY	daily: 7:30	9:45		THE COLD LIGHT OF DAY NED	daily: 7:15	9:30	
late show: 12:00		PG-13	late show: 11:45		PG-13		
KILLER JOE	daily: 5:15			KILLER JOE	daily: 5:00		
matinee: 12:45	3:00		matinee: 2:30				
THE ODD LIFE OF TIMOTHY GREEN	daily: 12:15	2:45		HOPE SPRINGS	daily: 7:45		
matinee: 12:15		PG	matinee: 7:45		PG-13		
DREDD - STARTS FRIDAY!				LAWLESS	daily: 5:15		
				matinee: 12:15			
				late show: 12:15		R	

Matinee: sat & sun | Late show: fri & sat

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EU-China summit opens with emphasis on trade

DON MELVIN

Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — A summit meeting Thursday between the leaders of the European Union and the Chinese prime minister opened on a friendly note, with leaders emphasizing the rapidly increasing trade between the two sides. But when the Chinese leader delved into more contentious topics,

EU officials cut off the audio feed to reporters at the request of the Chinese delegation.

The high-level meeting in Brussels is also being used as a fond farewell to that leader, Chinese Prime Minister Wen Jiabao. China will choose new leadership this fall.

Jose Manuel Barroso, presi-



Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao listens to speeches during an EU-China summit in Brussels on Thursday, Sept. 20, 2012. This will be Wen's last trip to Europe as Chinese premier.

(AP Photo/Virginia Mayo)

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dent of the European Commission, the EU's executive branch, said in his opening statement that it was appropriate to use the occasion look at progress made since Wen took office 10 years ago and almost 10 years since the launch of a strategic partnership be-

tween the two sides. He pointed to great increases in trade over the past decade — 280 percent in goods, 380 percent in services.

Wen also began on a friendly note.

"China is a firm supporter of European integration,"

he said. And, in an apparent sideswipe at the United States, he added: "We both support a multipolar world and oppose unilateralism." But toward the end of his opening statement, Wen veered into criticism. "I have to be very frank in saying this," he said. □

Rebels fight for city of Aleppo

PAUL SCHEMM

Associated Press

ALEPPO, Syria (AP) — Rebels have taken a major stride in uniting their ranks in the battle for Syria's largest city, giving them hope they could tip the balance after three months of bloody, stalemated combat in Aleppo, one of the biggest prizes of the civil war.

The question is how much more destruction the city can bear.

Government troops are retaliating against more effective rebel attacks with increasingly devastating bombardment, and

civilians are bearing the brunt, with their neighborhoods left in ruins.

The new military council was announced Sept. 9. It brings together two of the biggest rebel players in Aleppo and the countryside, and should allow for better coordinated attacks against the 30 percent of the city still in regime hands. The rebels have long been hampered by their division into dozens of competing groups, some with better links to funding and weapons, while others have more manpower.

There has been little coherent strategy, and organizing a major assault can often involve negotiations among dozens of independent outfits. "Before we made this council, the military aid used to come to just one man, and the people on the ground would get nothing. By forming this council, now aid comes to everyone, and everyone gets part of it," said Abdel Aziz Salameh, a former honey trader, based in the town of Tel Rifaat. He runs the biggest network of fighters in the province and is part of the Tawhid Division. □

Lightning said cause of Venezuela refinery fire

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — A fire that broke out at a Venezuelan oil

refinery at night, engulfing two fuel tanks at the El Palito refinery in Carabobo state.

said. Another tank was still in flames, sending up black smoke on Thursday

An investigation into the cause will be conducted, but all indications are that it was sparked by a strong electrical storm, Ramirez said.

"We suppose a lightning bolt hit one of our tanks and the fire broke out," he said. The refinery produces fuel for the domestic market. But the blaze won't lead to any shortages of fuel in the

country, said Asdrubal Chavez, vice president of refining for the state oil company Petroleos de Venezuela SA.

A much larger fire was sparked by a powerful blast last month at the Amuay refinery that killed at least 42 people, the country's worst-ever refinery disaster. The causes of that accident are under investigation.



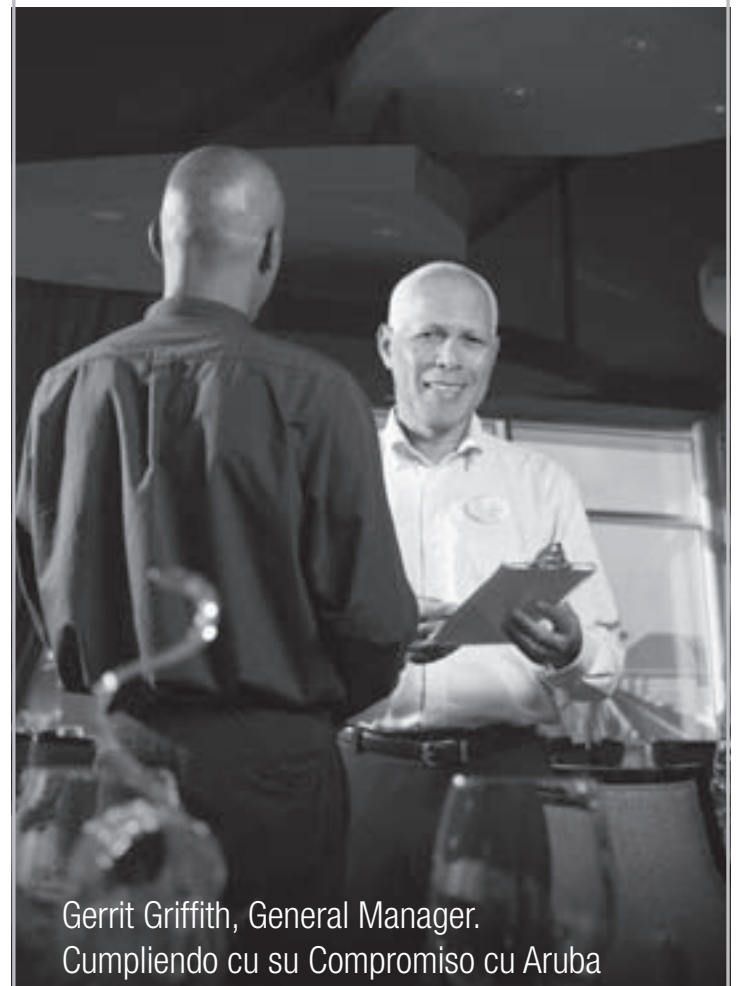
Fire and smoke rises from a fuel tanks at the El Palito refinery in Carabobo state, Venezuela on Thursday, Sept. 20, 2012. A fire that broke out at a Venezuelan oil refinery was apparently caused by a lightning strike, the country's top oil official said Thursday. (AP Photo/Lexander Loaiza)

refinery was apparently caused by a lightning strike, the country's top oil official said Thursday. Oil Minister Rafael Ramirez said the fire began on Wednesday

He said on state television that no one was hurt. About 120 firefighters were working to put out the blaze and had quickly extinguished one of the tanks, Ramirez

morning. "This fire is controlled," Ramirez said on television at the refinery, where the tank was in flames behind him. "We're putting it out."

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Pemex's safety record marred by blast

MARK STEVENSON
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — An enormous blast that killed 30 workers at a pipeline facility in northern Mexico was a big setback for the state-owned oil company, which up to this year had been reporting strides in its safety record at once accident-prone plants.

Petroleos Mexicanos and prosecutors were still combing the burned-out rubble and twisted wreckage Thursday at the pipeline metering center near Reynosa, across the border from McAllen, Texas. But it was already clear Tuesday's blast and fire marked a serious reversal in what Pemex has said was a declining accident rate.

The death of 30 workers in one accident was the largest-single toll in at least a decade for the company. Only about one-sixth of those killed and half the 46 injured were Pemex employees. The rest worked for a half-dozen private companies doing operational

and maintenance work at the station, which is next door to a larger and more flammable natural gas-processing plant.

Some analysts pointed to Pemex's huge reliance on

staff.

Carlos Ramirez, an analyst at the Eurasia Group who formerly worked at Pemex, disagreed.

"My experience was always that contractors were

no signs so far of sabotage. Executives said a valve apparently failed as workers performed routine testing where pipelines from gas wells in the Burgos basin converge near the border with Texas. The plant distributes the gas into a processing plant next door that produces fuel for domestic use.

Large gaps remain in what is known about the events that led up to the Reynosa explosion, including exactly what the contractors were doing at the facility, said George Baker, a Houston, Texas-based industry analyst who runs an energy newsletter focused on Mexico. "Blaming contractors is an easy out for any company," Baker said, noting that such accusations frequently mark disasters like the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. Pemex had been reducing accidents in the 2000s, following a series of incidents in the 1980s and 1990s, according to company figures. □



Relatives and family members hold a picture of their father who was killed in the Pemex gas explosion on Tuesday, while waiting for word at the PGR facility in Reynosa, Mexico.
(AP Photo/The Monitor, Delcia Lopez)

subcontractors as a possible contributing factor to the disaster, while others defended the outsourcing. Pemex figures say contractors are slightly less prone to be involved in accidents than the company's own

lagging behind overall Pemex procedures. It was always a challenge to get them up to speed," he said. Pemex officials have said that an accidental leak appears to have caused the fire and that there were

U.S. begins test flights of MV-22 Osprey in Japan

TOKYO (AP) — The U.S. Marines are conducting their first test flights of the MV-22 Osprey aircraft in Japan after months of protests there over safety concerns.

The hybrid aircraft can take off like a helicopter and fly like an airplane. Flight operations were conducted Friday at a base in southern Japan where they are temporarily deployed before being transferred to Okinawa.

Following two recent crashes, tens of thousands of Okinawans have protested the deployment, saying that they are not safe to fly in Okinawa's crowded environment.

But Japan's central government gave the green light for operations to begin this week after a visit by U.S. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta, who said Washington is confident in the safety of the aircraft. The planes are to head to Okinawa this month. □

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UK judge: Litvinenko inquest to reopen in 2013



In this May 10, 2002 file photo, Alexander Litvinenko, Kremlin critic and author of the book "Blowing Up Russia: Terror From Within", poses for a photograph at his home in London. An inquest into the death of former Russian agent Alexander Litvinenko should take place early next year and will likely consider whether Russian authorities were involved, a senior British judge said Thursday, Sept. 20, 2012.

(AP Photo/Alistair Fuller)

JILL LAWLESS
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — A long-awaited inquest into the poisoning death of former Russian agent Alexander Litvinenko should consider whether Russian authorities were involved, the senior British judge who will oversee it said Thursday. But the U.K. government will not let lawyers for the victim's family and the suspects see a report on alleged links between Litvinenko and British intelligence. Litvinenko's family believes the Kremlin was behind his death from radioactive poisoning in London in November 2006. The former security service officer, a

critic of the Kremlin, died after drinking tea laced with the rare radioactive isotope polonium-210 at a London hotel.

On his deathbed, he accused Russian President Vladimir Putin of responsibility.

Ben Emmerson, a lawyer for Litvinenko's widow Marina, told a court hearing that it was vital that the inquest investigate "the criminal role of the Russian state."

Emmerson said that if official Russian involvement was proved, it would constitute "an act of state-sponsored nuclear terrorism on the streets of London."

Judge Robert Owen, who will lead the inquest, said its scope would be decided at a later hearing, but indicated he was inclined to agree it should look at Russia's alleged role.

Owen said it was "to be regretted" that no inquest has been held in the nearly six years since the Litvinenko died. Owen said he would open his inquest as early in 2013 as possible.

The killing cast a pall over U.K.-Russian relations that still persists. British prosecutors have accused two Russians, Alexander Lugovoi and Dmitry Kovtun, of killing Litvinenko, but Russia refuses to hand them over. Lugovoi is now a Russian lawmaker.

Lawyer Hugh Davies, the inquest's counsel, said the judge-led inquiry should be a "full and fearless" examination of all the facts.

But he said some evidence will be withheld at the re-

quest of the British government.

Davies said all interested parties, including lawyers for the Litvinenko family, Lugovoi and the British gov-

ernment, would be given a police report into Litvinenko's death before the inquest begins. One section, however, will be censored - the results of police inqui-

ries into whether Litvinenko was in contact with Britain's MI6 intelligence service. Davies said the judge and the inquiry's lawyers had seen the full report. □



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Obama's record in the Muslim world has strides and setbacks

BEN FELLER

ROBERT BURNS

Associated Press

CAIRO/WASHINGTON (AP)

— Images of angry mobs in Arab cities burning American flags and attacking U.S. diplomatic posts suggest the Muslim world is no

and the Palestinians is nowhere in sight, Iran is seen as a menace and broad mistrust with America is still deep and explosive across much of the Muslim world. As nations across North Africa and the Middle East move chaotically toward

policy in general and problems in the Middle East specifically.

Across the world his standing remains markedly lower in predominantly Muslim nations. However, Leila Hilal, a Mideast expert at the New America Foundation, said Obama may have made more progress toward improving relations than critics say.

"Obama inherited a very damaged U.S. credibility in the region," she said, and so it would be unrealistic to think that his "new beginning" would take hold fast. "There's only so much one president can do, given the history" of perceived insults by the U.S., she said. Those include events as major as the American invasion of Iraq and as recent as the privately made anti-Islam video that ridicules the prophet Muhammad and triggered major protests across the Muslim world.

The question of the Obama administration's relationship with that Muslim world came under new election-year scrutiny when four Americans, including Ambassador Chris Stevens, were killed in a Sept. 11 attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya.

Obama found himself eulogizing the dead, pledging that the work of U.S. diplomacy would go on undaunted — and prodding his Muslim partners to accept responsibilities.

"As they emerge into new forms of government, part of what they're going to have to do is to recognize that democracy is not just casting a ballot," Obama said this week. "It's respecting freedom of speech and tolerating people with different points of view."



Iranian parliament speaker Ali Larijani, center, attends a protest after the Friday prayer, on Friday, Sept. 14, 2012, while a worshipper holds up a poster of US President Barack Obama, as part of widespread anger across the Muslim world about a film ridiculing Islam's Prophet Muhammad. (AP Photo/Vahid Salemi)

less enraged at the United States than when President George W. Bush had to duck shoes hurled at him in Baghdad. But more than three years after President Barack Obama declared in Cairo that he would seek "a new beginning" in U.S.-Muslim relations, a closer look reveals strides as well as setbacks.

One U.S.-led war is over and another is receding, although there are questions about whether America has made lasting gains in Afghanistan. The Arab Spring revolution, a spontaneous combustion that happened independent of Western influence, has given people new power and hope as well as democratic elections the U.S. supports. But peace between Israel

democracy, they and Washington have settled into a wary, redefined relationship. Obama is not ready to call Mohammad Morsi, the popularly elected Egyptian president, an ally, and the democratically elected Iraqi president, Nouri al-Maliki, has dismissed U.S. demands that he stop Iran from using Iraqi airspace to fly weapons to Syria for use against anti-government rebels.

Such is the complicated progress report that Obama carries toward the United Nations General Assembly next week, his final moment on a world stage before the U.S. election on Nov. 6. For that election, Pew Research Center polling shows Obama has a clear edge over Republican Mitt Romney in handling foreign

World Briefs

Bank of England Chief: UK economic recovery is slow

LONDON (AP) — Bank of England Governor Mervyn King says Britain's economy is recovering slowly and any return to normal will take a long time. In an interview with Britain's Channel 4 News on Thursday, King said the eurozone crisis has cast a "black cloud of uncertainty" over global businesses. He said that the European Central Bank's actions to support the euro had bought some breathing room and that "now is the time" for eurozone finance ministers to settle the future of the currency.

King says that there are "a few signs" of a slow recovery in Britain, but that "after a banking crisis one can't expect to get back to normal" and that any recovery would depend on events in the euro area and countries such as the U.S. and China.

Brazil's blacks are rising up into country's middle class

SAO PAULO (AP) — Brazil says blacks have made strong gains in rising from poverty into the middle class. The Presidency's Strategic Affairs Office says in a report released Thursday that 35 million people have joined the ranks of the country's middle class over the past decade, and 28 million of them are black. It defines middle class as families with a per capita monthly income of \$146 to \$510. The study says that more than 100 million of Brazil's 192 million people fall into the middle class.

That's 53 percent of the population. Blacks make up 51 percent of the overall population. The government says the middle class will continue growing and account for 57 percent of the population by 2022.

Serb acquitted of setting US Embassy on fire in '08

BELGRADE, Serbia (AP) — A Serbian court on Thursday acquitted the prime suspect charged with setting fire to the U.S. Embassy in Belgrade in 2008, but convicted him of the lesser offense of stealing property from the building and sentenced him to a year in prison. A Belgrade high court judge said there was no evidence that Milan Zivanovic, 24, took part in the burning of the embassy when Serb rioters stormed it on Feb. 21, 2008, in anger over Washington's support for the statehood of Kosovo, the predominantly ethnic Albanian province that had declared independence from Serbia.

But the judge said Zivanovic, a university student, took part in the stealing of a leather jacket and gloves that belonged to an embassy employee. One assailant was killed in the fire set by the attackers.



At Arawa Water Park:

Occidental Grand employees enjoy cool Family Day!

Once again this year, the Occidental Grand Aruba celebrated a tremendous Family Day at Arawa Water Park. During the festive day, employees had the opportunity to swim, splash, play and dance in the company of their colleagues and their families. On this Family Day, everyone enjoyed the fantastic food and beverages served, and let's not forget the terrific music and ambiance provided by Arawa! Participating employees would like to give thanks to the Occidental Grand and those who organized the event, treating them and their families to such a fun and exciting day! □



Ken and Mary Skelly honored by ATA at the Marriott Ocean Vacation Club

Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice couple whom are loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba, at the Aruba Marriott Ocean Vacation Club, as Distinguished Visitors. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 consecutive years. The honorees are Ken and Mary Skel-



ly, from North Myrtle Beach, SC. Ken and Mary love Aruba very much, because of the extremely friendly people, the climate, beaches, restaurants, and most importantly, the great accommodations at the Marriott: especially the free Wifi!! The certificate was presented by Ernest Giel, representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, together with Lorraine Versteeg, Front Office Manager, representing the Marriott Ocean Vacation Club. □

Go Karting in Aruba at the Bushiri Karting Speedway!

Do you want to feel the need for speed in Aruba? You have to visit Bushiri Karting Speedway for the thrill of your life on a professional outdoor karting track driving in high speed rental go karts! Have fun this summer with your friends, enjoy a good race, get your lap time results, and after the race enjoy some good food and cold drinks at our Sports Bar called Fuel Sports Bar & Grill.

Bushiri Karting Speedway & Fuel Sports Bar & Grill is open daily from 10am – 6:30 pm. Great fun with friends and family at an affordable price, no reservations needed, just arrive and drive any time of day. We have a total of 16 Rental Karts, 10 Adult Karts with 270cc 9 Horse Power Honda Engines that can reach up to 50 mph on our 0.8 professional Outdoor Track.

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formation call: 583-5278. We are located just minutes away from the Low Rise hotels, in front of Ling & Sons supermarket. ☐



Petra van den Berg presents: Universal Leadership Workshop



Life coach Petra van den Berg is greatly looking forward to her upcoming, 8-week long workshop called 'Universal leadership'. During this workshop participants are stimulated to recognize certain themes in their lives that keep coming back as well as gain insights regarding cooperating with life itself, the body and its needs, pro-

fessional and personal life and learning how to work together from universal leadership. Inner strength is key during this workshop during which acceptance and breaking through previously learned behavioral patterns are put under the microscope. Taking responsibility is aimed for through healing techniques and the road to trust, commitment, discipline and values will be taken. Insights in oneself are the starting point. The 8-week long training will start at Spirit of Aruba on September 24 at 7 pm; registration is possible via www.spiritofaruba.com or via e-mail. The cost of the workshop is AWG. 500. For more information about the various activities at Spirit of Aruba, please look them up at the website. ☐

Beauty On The Beach

Shirley Lorusso

She is from Maracaibo, Venezuela. This is her eight time visiting Aruba, she is staying with her family at Playa Linda Beach Resort. Her favorite activity while she is in Aruba is shopping and relaxing on the beach. Last year she met her future husband on Aruba's Beach.

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For fifteen years now, Aruban donkeys have been sheltered at the local Donkey Sanctuary, which is run by volunteers. A group of about fifty volunteers of different nationalities is taking care of the donkeys and of the Sanctuary as well. Besides that, many of the volunteers participate in activities to raise funds. The volunteers form a nice group that enjoys working together for the well-being of the Aruban donkeys. And now we need more volunteers and ask you

whether joining us might be a fun way to fill your spare time. You will meet lots of new people and visitors of the Sanctuary. The foundation that runs the Sanctuary is looking for volunteers for different purposes: people who want to take care of the donkeys, people who are good with their hands for the technical maintenance, people who want to give information, to show people around or do PR work. Actually, the Donkey Sanctuary could use everyone. Get acquainted

with the other side of Aruba and spend your spare time in a fun and useful way. Be aware, though, that once you get to work, it is quite addictive. Most volunteers stay involved with the foundation for a long time and enjoy every moment that they are active. So please consider spending your spare time in a super fun way and make yourself useful for the Aruban community. Call Desiree Eldering for information or an appointment with her at 593 2933. Just do it!

Housekeeping appreciation week at the Aruba Marriott



Aruba Marriott's Resort, Ocean and Surf Club housekeeping departments celebrated the annual Housekeeping Appreciation Week from September 9 – 15, 2012.

Marriott International strives to appreciate all its associates and the Housekeeping department is no exception.

All 318 Housekeeping associates were invited for

a grand breakfast in Marriott's ballroom served by their executive team.

Throughout the week, all three Housekeeping departments had their individual schedules of celebrations at the hotels and off property.

The Resort team organized a sunset sail, a gala dinner at Blossoms, bowling and a beach BBQ. The Ocean Club associates participated with

bingo games, bowling, private breakfast, bowling and an outdoor beach activity at Barcadera. Associates of the Surf Club celebrated their special week with beach olympics, waterpark fun, zumba and a dance contest.

The Aruba Marriott thanks the Housekeeping departments for their dedication and great work. □



The Radisson honors career commitment

Palm Beach -- A special luncheon hosted in honor of all colleagues in the Grand Caribbean Ballroom paid homage to those celebrating their anniversaries at the resort in July, also lauding top achievers among colleagues, for that same time of the year. Marilu Erasmus, the Hostess of the Sunset Grille restaurant received top

honors as Colleague of the Month for July. She was praised for being an outstanding employee who goes the extra mile to ensure guests have the best dining experience possible at the 4-diamond AAA rated restaurant. In addition to her regular duties, she has taken on extra responsibilities and is excelling at those as well.

Also nominated to Colleague of the Month Melissa Kock of the Accounting; Murle Hodge, Kitchen; Candida Peña, Housekeeping and Silvio Hodge of Guest Services.

Pictured here, winner Marilu Erasmus receiving accolades from resort general manager Willem Plegt. □



AL Capsules



Baltimore Orioles' Adam Jones greets teammates after his two-run home run in the 11th inning of a baseball game against the Seattle Mariners gave the Orioles a 3-1 win, Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2012, in Seattle.

Associated Press

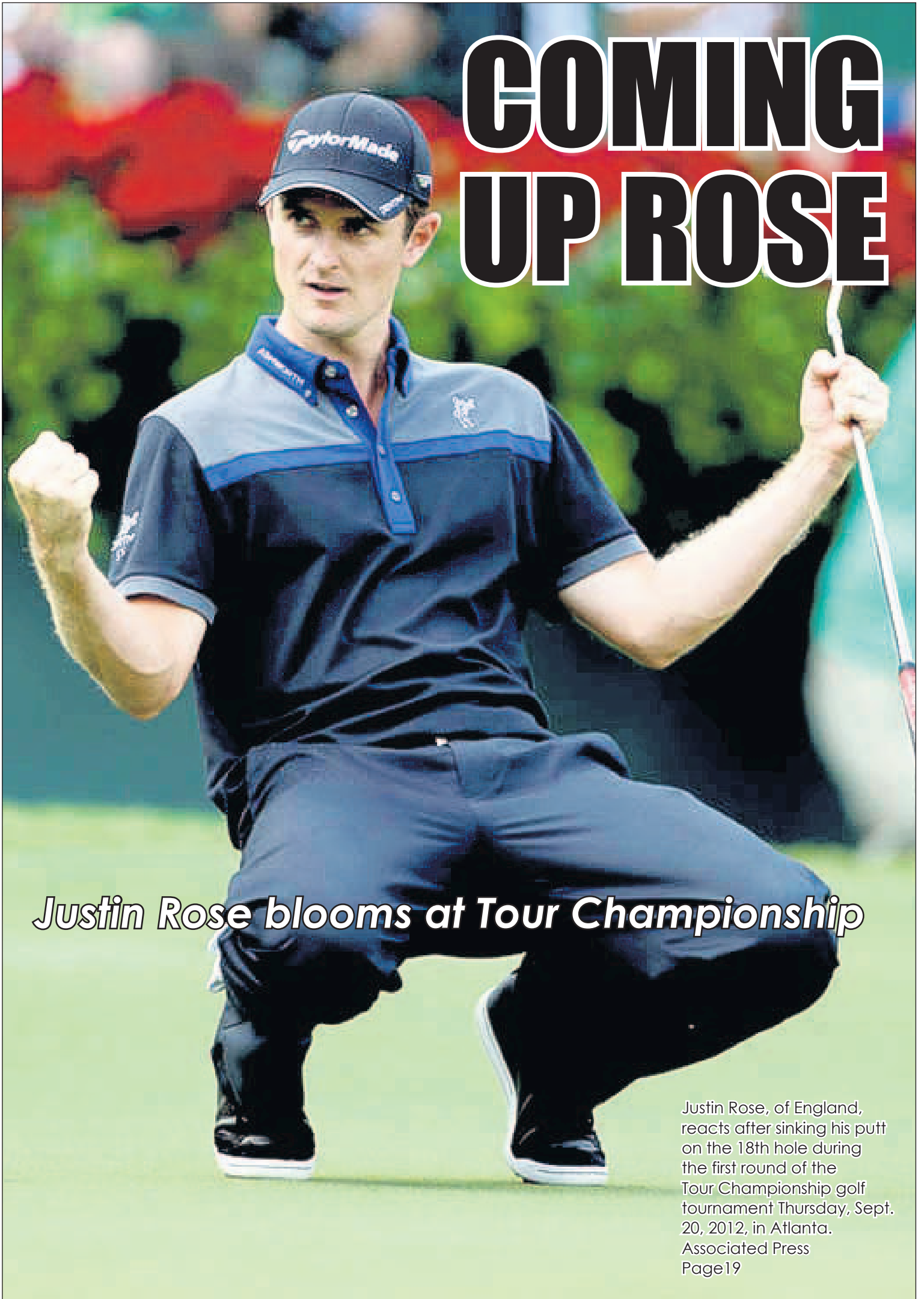
Jones' blast gives O's 3-1 win over M's

SEATTLE (AP) — Adam Jones hit a two-run homer in the top of the 11th inning and Baltimore won its 15th straight extra-innings game with a 3-1 victory over Seattle on Wednesday night. A night after the teams played an 18-inning marathon that lasted nearly 6 hours, Jones, the one-time Mariners prospect, gave Baltimore a huge boost in its race with the Yankees for the lead in the AL East. Even with New York sweeping a doubleheader from Toronto on Wednesday, the Orioles stayed just a half-game back in the division race. The Orioles moved into the top spot in the AL wild-card race after Oakland was handed a 6-2 loss in Detroit.

According to the Orioles, with information from the Elias Sports Bureau, the 15 straight extra-inning wins is the longest streak since the Cleveland Indians won 17 straight in 1949.

Continued on page 18

COMING UP ROSE



Justin Rose blooms at Tour Championship

Justin Rose, of England, reacts after sinking his putt on the 18th hole during the first round of the Tour Championship golf tournament Thursday, Sept. 20, 2012, in Atlanta.
Associated Press
Page19

WNBA Roundup



Connecticut Sun's Kara Lawson goes up for three points in the first half of a WNBA basketball game against the Indiana Fever in Uncasville, Conn., Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2012.
Associated Press

Lawson leads Sun in 73-67 win over Fever

UNCASVILLE, Connecticut (AP) — Kara Lawson scored nine of her 23 points in the final 4 minutes to lead the Connecticut Sun to a 73-67 win over the Indiana Fever in the WNBA on Wednesday.

Tina Charles had 17 points and 12 rebounds and Allison Hightower added 10 points for the Sun (24-9). Katie Douglas scored 16 of her 19 points in the first half for the Fever (20-12). Tami-ka Catchings added 15 points and five rebounds. Neither Douglas nor Catchings played in the fourth quarter.

The Fever announced before the game that they'll play without starting guards Briann January and Shavonte Zellous the rest of the regular season. Both sustained head injuries in Monday's loss at Minnesota and returned to Indianapolis.

Al Capsule

Continued from page 17

Jones' turned on a 3-2 pitch from Seattle's Josh Kinney (0-3) for his 30th homer.

Jim Johnson pitched the bottom of the 11th for his major league-leading 45th save.

YANKEES 4, BLUE JAYS 2, 1st game

YANKEES 2, BLUE JAYS 1, 2nd game

NEW YORK (AP) — Ichiro Suzuki had a go-ahead single in the eighth inning, his seventh hit of the day, to help New York complete a doubleheader sweep of Toronto that ensured they remained atop the AL East — by a half-game over Baltimore.

Suzuki made a difficult catch with the bases loaded in the eighth inning of the opener to preserve a lead for Andy Pettitte.

Suzuki had three hits in the opener batting leadoff in place of Derek Jeter, who rested his sore ankle in the first game of the day-night doubleheader. Jeter started at shortstop for the first time in a week and got his 200th hit on Ricky Romero's first pitch.

Rafael Soriano closed both games, notching his 41st and 42nd saves, the first time he saved two in one day.

The Blue Jays, playing their first doubleheader against the Yankees since 1986, were without shortstop Yunel Escobar, who began a three-game suspension for wearing eye black displaying an anti-gay slur written in Spanish during a game last weekend against Boston.

Toronto dropped to 66-81, guaranteeing it will not have a winning record this season.

With the score 1-1, Curtis Granderson was walked



New York Yankees' Ichiro Suzuki watches his eighth-inning RBI-single against the Toronto Blue Jays in Game 2 of a baseball doubleheader at Yankee Stadium in New York, Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2012.
Associated Press

by Steve Delabar (4-3) to open the eighth. He moved up on a sacrifice and stole third. With two outs, Suzuki slapped an opposite-field hit to left for the lead. Suzuki stole two bases in the inning to give him four. The Yankees had seven steals in the nightcap, their most in a game in three years.

Cody Eppley (1-2) got one out for his first win since April 27, 2011.

Romero remained tied for the Blue Jays record with 13 straight losses and walked five to up his AL-leading total to 99. It was his third game in which he allowed one run and didn't win — two no-decisions.

Adeiny Hechavarria's RBI single in the second after Phelps walked was just the 24th run Toronto has scored in Romero's last 13 starts. In the opener, Pettitte (4-3) gave up four hits in his first start since a hot shot off the bat of Cleveland's Casey Kotchman broke his left fibula on June 27.

TIGERS 6, ATHLETICS 2

DETROIT (AP) — Miguel Cabrera homered, Omar Infante drove in three runs and Justin Verlander pitched six scoreless innings

to help Detroit.

Verlander (15-8) allowed five hits and three walks while striking out five.

The Tigers have won two straight over the A's — and 28 of their last 36 games at home — in their chase to catch the AL Central-leading Chicago.

Oakland, clinging to an AL wild-card spot, has dropped three straight and might have had a costly loss on the mound because Brett Anderson (4-2) left the game after two-plus innings with a strained right oblique.

Detroit shortstop Jhonny Peralta had an error in the fifth — snapping a 75-game errorless streak — but he helped turn a double play to end the inning. He chipped in at the plate in the home half, hitting an RBI single to put Detroit ahead 4-0.

RAYS 13, RED SOX 3

ST. PETERSBURG, Florida (AP) — Desmond Jennings hit a two-run triple during Tampa Bay's seven-run sixth-inning, and the Rays snapped a four-game losing streak.

Jennings scored following his triple against reliever Alfredo Aceves when the

throw from the outfield eluded third baseman Pedro Ciriaco. Four Boston pitchers walked six in the sixth, including passes to Carlos Pena and Jose Molina with the bases loaded. Luke Scott had a sacrifice fly, and Jeff Keppinger added an RBI single.

Keppinger hit a solo homer, and Pena added a two-shot off Daisuke Matsuzaka (1-6) as Tampa Bay went ahead 5-3 in the fourth.

Chris Archer (1-3) allowed three runs and five hits over five innings for the Rays, who won for the second time in nine games. It was the rookie's first major league win.

The Red Sox (68-82), assured of their first losing season since 1997, got two RBIs from Jacoby Ellsbury.

TWINS 6, INDIANS 4

CLEVELAND (AP) — Josh Willingham had four hits and four RBIs and Minnesota's Liam Hendriks finally got his first career win as Cleveland dropped into last place in the AL Central. Willingham belted a tie-breaking two-run homer off Zach McAllister (5-8) in the fifth inning, giving Minnesota a 4-2 lead. He also had three singles.

Hendriks (1-7) pitched six effective innings to get the win in his 18th career start. Glen Perkins worked the ninth for his 14th save.

Cleveland shortstop Asdrubal Cabrera homered, but left in the seventh with a sore right wrist.

Cleveland fell to 11-39 since July 26 and has dropped 11 of its last 13 at home. The Indians led the AL Central for 40 days and held a four-game advantage on May 17, but are 39-72 since.

Hendriks allowed two runs and two hits. The right-hander, who made four starts in 2011, was the fifth pitcher since 1920 to go winless in his first 17 starts, three shy of the record shared by Bill Caudill of the Chicago Cubs (1979-81) and Mike Mohler of Oakland (1993-97).

ROYALS 3, WHITE SOX 0

KANSAS CITY, Missouri (AP) — Bruce Chen pitched into the seventh inning and Alex Gordon hit a two-run double as Kansas City snapped Chicago's five-game winning streak.

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Woods makes an early statement at East Lake

DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — Tiger Woods sure didn't look intimidated Thursday in the Tour Championship. Woods kept the ball in play at East Lake and chipped in for one of his six birdies on his way to a 4-under 66 that gave him a share of the lead with Justin Rose. It was the first step toward what Woods hopes is another FedEx Cup title, and another \$10 million bonus.

Rory McIlroy, playing with Woods for the fifth time in these playoffs, saved par on the last hole for a 69.

The week began with Greg Norman saying that Woods was intimidated by McIlroy, a suggestion that both players found amusing. While it's doubtful that inspired Woods, he played as if he wasn't ready to let McIlroy win a third straight playoff event and capture the FedEx Cup.

McIlroy, who has won three of his last four tournaments, and Woods are among the top five seeds at East Lake who only have to win the Tour Championship to claim the largest payoff in golf. Woods wasn't interested in what anyone else was doing.

"Just winning," he said. "Winning takes care of everything."

Rose, who hasn't won since the World Golf Championship at Doral in March, swiftly moved up the leaderboard late in his round with three birdies over the last five holes, and the last one was memorable. From the back of the green on the par-3 18th, Rose faced a 50-foot putt with some 20 feet of break from right to left. It looked wide the whole way until it snapped back toward the cup.

Equally impressive was chipping in from some 20 yards

short of the 14th green for the birdie that started his big run.

Rose is 24th in the FedEx Cup, meaning he would have to win and everyone at the top of the standings would have to falter. The way Woods started, that looked improbable. Rose checked the leaderboard early on, not to see his pro-

to snap out of his funk from missing out on the Ryder Cup with a 68, tied with a group that included Brandt Snedeker, who is among the top five seeds. The others are Phil Mickelson, who opened with a 69, and Nick Watney, who brought up the rear with a 75.

Despite the Tour Championship featuring the top 30

Wonder is winning more trophies. Woods has posted the lower score in four of the five rounds they have played together in the playoffs. The exception was Crooked Stick, when McIlroy opened with a 64 and Woods had a 65.

Woods, as usual, didn't read too much into that.

"I enjoy playing with Rory,"

Ilroy, Keegan Bradley and I could probably name a half-dozen other guys that have all won and learned how to win in Tiger's absence. They're not scared of him anymore."

McIlroy gets most of the attention because he has won four times this year, all of them with Woods in the field, including his second eight-shot win in a major.

At East Lake, the edge goes to Woods.

Woods has three runner-up finishes and a win the last four times he has played at East Lake, a course he likes because of the traditional look to it.

"Trouble is just right there in front of you," Woods said. "It's very simple, but it's hard. It's rare that you see guys go low here, but it's very simple."

Really, not a lot of trouble out here, but guys just have a hard time getting it low out there."

Woods holed a 20-foot birdie putt on the second hole and stuffed a wedge into 5 feet on the third to get on track. He made bogey from the bunker on No. 4, and took another bogey on the 14th when his drive sailed into the rough.

The Bermuda grass isn't high, but it's thin enough for the ball to sink to the bottom and make it difficult to reach the green, much less keep it on the green.

McIlroy didn't feel he was at a disadvantage playing the Tour Championship for the first time. He saw the course as Woods did — keep it in play, keep the ball below the hole.

"I felt like I hit the ball pretty good," McIlroy said. "So just go out there tomorrow and try to play the same way, and maybe hole a few more putts and turn what I shot today into something in the mid-60s."



Tiger Woods watches his tee shot on the fourth hole during first round of play in the Tour Championship golf tournament in Atlanta on Thursday, Sept. 20, 2012.

Associated Press

jected standing, but to get an idea of how the course was playing.

That part was easy to decipher. On a warm day, with the sun finally breaking through cloud cover in the middle of the afternoon, no one was tearing up the place.

Scott Piercy ran off three straight birdies late in his round until he stumbled in the rough behind the 18th green and finished with a double bogey for a 67, tied with Steve Stricker, Matt Kuchar and Bo Van Pelt. Stricker was the only player in the 30-man field without a bogey.

Hunter Mahan appeared

on the PGA Tour, the focus again returned to the top two players.

A boisterous gallery lined the fairways and crowded behind every green to see the latest edition of Tiger and Rory, and they didn't disappoint. McIlroy is playing East Lake for the first time, and he struggled with the Bermuda rough around the greens.

"If you don't hit fairways, it's hard," McIlroy said. "If you hit the ball in the rough here, it's very, very difficult to get any control on your ball."

Woods again had McIlroy's number when playing together, even though Boy

he said. "He's a great kid. Over the years, there are certain pairings for me that I've enjoyed, and Rory is one of them."

Meanwhile, Jack Nicklaus weighed in on Norman's comments to FoxSports.com. Nicklaus was told about the "intimidating" remarks during a radio interview with ESPN 980 in Washington and said playfully, "Quiet, Greg. Quiet. Down boy."

"I think Tiger has a lot of wins left in him," Nicklaus said. "He does have a lot more competition. During the couple of years when Tiger wasn't really there, all of a sudden you have Rory Mc-

MLB unlikely to bar Cabrera from batting title

RONALD BLUM

AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Major League Baseball appears unlikely to interfere if Melky Cabrera wins the National League batting title while serving his 50-game suspension for a positive drug test.

The San Francisco Giants outfielder has a league-leading .346 average, six points ahead of Pittsburgh's Andrew McCutchen on Thursday.

Cabrera has 501 plate appearances, one fewer than the required amount if the Giants play 162 games. Under section 10.22(a) of the Official Baseball Rules, he would win the batting title if an extra hitless at-bat is added to his average and



This July 14, 2012 file photo shows San Francisco Giants' Melky Cabrera swinging for an RBI single off Houston Astros' Lucas Harrell in the fifth inning of a baseball game in San Francisco. Associated Press

it remains higher than that of any other qualifying player.

"We'll see how it all plays out," MLB Commissioner Bud Selig said on Wednesday. "We generally don't interfere in that process. We'll take a look at it at the end of the year."

Cabrera, the All-Star game MVP, was suspended on Aug. 15 for a positive test for testosterone and is missing the final 45 games of the regular season.

Selig was also asked whether records set during the Steroids Era should be revisited.

"You can't change records because once you get into that it would never stop," Selig said. "It would create more problems than it would solve."

NL Capsules

Dodgers beat Nats 7-6 for split of DH

WASHINGTON (AP) — Matt Kemp scored a phantom run early, then hit a go-ahead homer in the ninth inning — right after Washington rallied with a six-run eighth — and the struggling Los Angeles Dodgers grabbed a 7-6 victory Wednesday night for a doubleheader split that prevented the Nationals from sewing up a playoff berth.

Kemp was credited with crossing home to give Los Angeles a 6-0 lead in the fourth, even though TV replays showed the inning's last out already had been recorded on third baseman Ryan Zimmerman's head-over-heels, reaching tag of runner Adrian Gonzalez.

That extra run loomed large when the hosts — who had won the opener 3-1 thanks largely to Jordan Zimmermann's six innings of one-run baseball — wound up sending 12 batters to the plate while scoring six runs in the eighth.

Michael Morse had a homer and a two-run single, and Washington chased Josh Beckett, who had allowed only two hits through seven innings.

The announced crowd of 26,931 was getting loud, perhaps anticipating a comeback and playoff-clinching victory, when Kemp drove an 0-2 pitch from Tyler Clippard (2-5) over the wall in center for his 19th homer.

Ronald Belisario (7-1) earned the win by getting the last two outs of the eighth inning. Brandon League picked up his third save with a hitless ninth.

Zimmermann (11-8) allowed one run and six hits in six innings in the opener. Clippard pitched the ninth for his 32nd save.

Dodgers starter Aaron Harang (9-10) lasted just 4 2-3 innings in the first game.

BRAVES 3, MARLINS 0

MIAMI (AP) — Kris Medlen pitched eight innings of four-hit ball and the Braves won his start for the 21st straight time.

Medlen (9-1) lost the first two starts of his career in 2009. He hasn't taken a loss in any of his 26 starts since, with the Braves prevailing in the last 21 of those — making them the first team since the New York Yankees to have such a streak,



Los Angeles Dodgers' Matt Kemp (27) celebrates as he scores his solo home run, with Adrian Gonzalez (23), during the ninth inning of the second baseball game of a doubleheader against the Washington Nationals at Nationals Park, Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2012, in Washington. Kemp's homer was the game-winner and the Dodgers won the second game 7-6.

Associated Press

according to STATS LLC. The Yankees won 22 straight times when Whitey Ford started games from 1950

through 1953, a span interrupted by Ford serving in the Korean War. Chipper Jones, playing his

last game against Miami, went 1 for 4, getting hit No. 2,721 to tie Gehrig for 58th on baseball's career list.

Championship Chase Still time to get back into NASCAR title hunt



Brad Keselowski, right, talks as he signs an autograph for a fan before the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race at Chicagoland Speedway in Joliet, Ill., Sunday, Sept. 16, 2012.

Associated Press

JENNA FRYER AP Auto Racing Writer

It doesn't take long for the pretenders to be separated from the contenders in NASCAR's Chase for the Sprint Cup championship. Sometimes, through bad luck or mediocre performance, a driver leaves the Chase opener sentenced to an also-ran status for the remainder of the season. This season may be an anomaly — the field is too

stacked to start crossing names off the list of legitimate title contenders. That could be good news for Matt Kenseth and Jeff Gordon, who each had mechanical problems in the Chicago opener of the 10-race Chase. Kenseth had a shock fall off his car, Gordon crashed after his throttle stuck and the two head to Round 2 in New Hampshire ranked 11th and 12th in the standings.

"I think even Jeff Gordon, even though he had a disappointing finish, he still can't count himself out," said defending champion Tony Stewart. "Everybody can have a bad race, so it's way too early to predict after one race."

There's usually room for a mulligan in the Chase: Stewart limped to a 25th-place finish last year in Round 3 at Dover and still won the title. Jimmie Johnson overcame not only a 39th-place finish in the 2006 Chase opener, but also a crash at Talladega. An early crash at Texas in 2009 led to a 38th-place finish, and he still won his fourth title. And in 2010, he opened with a 25th-place finish and rallied over the remaining nine weeks for his fifth straight championship. So nobody is expecting the champion to have a flawless 10-race run.

After opening the Chase as the points leader, Denny Hamlin's 16th-place finish dropped him to fifth in the standings. Only 15 points behind Chicago winner and new points leader Brad Keselowski, Hamlin is confident about his chances.

"This is 1 week of 10. We will win next week," Hamlin tweeted.

Maybe he will. Hamlin might have won at New

Hampshire in July if not for late race miscommunication with crew chief Darrian Grubb, who changed four tires when Hamlin only wanted two changed. The longer pit stop dropped Hamlin deep in the field, and despite a frantic final push, he finished second to

winner Kasey Kahne. He had a good attitude after the race — "I've been through this long enough now (that) you're going to have plenty more chances in the future, especially the way we're running," he said — and gets a chance to prove it on Sunday. □

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Study suggests tie between chemical BPA, child obesity

MIKE STOBBE

AP Medical Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — A provocative new study suggests a connection between the BPA chemical used in food packaging and childhood obesity, but the researchers say their findings don't prove it's the cause.

While most people have traces of the plastics chemical in their bodies, the study found that children with the highest levels in their urine were twice as likely to be obese than those with the lowest.

Other factors could explain the results, and there are many reasons why children gain too much weight, the researchers said.

"Clearly, unhealthy diet and poor physical activity are the leading factors contributing to obesity in the United States, especially in children," said lead author Dr. Leonardo Trasande of New York University.

But he said the study is the first national research to tie a chemical from the environment to childhood obesity, and seems to echo what some studies have seen in adults.

One puzzling result: Significant differences were only detected in white children. For black and Hispanic kids, obesity rates were similar for those with the lowest levels of BPA as those with the largest amount. The researchers couldn't explain that finding.

The study was published in Wednesday's Journal of the American Medical Association.

BPA, or bisphenol A, has been used since the 1960s and become so widespread that it's found in virtually all Americans. Government health officials have deemed low levels of it to be safe but haven't been able to decide what amount of BPA — if any — would be a health concern.

BPA is used in hardened plastics and food packaging. It's used to line metal cans and other consumer

and medical goods. Environmental groups have worried it interferes with children's development, and this year the Food and Drug Administration announced the chemical would be phased out of baby bottles and sippy cups.

Some experimental studies on animals have found that BPA can aid obesity by disrupting metabolism and helping to make fat cells

and measuring participants and taking blood and urine samples.

Their study involved more than 2,800 children ages 6 through 19 who took the survey in the years 2003 through 2008. They compared BPA levels in their urine to their weight and divided them into four groups based on BPA amounts.

The key finding: About 22 percent of the children with highest levels of BPA



A provocative new study suggests a connection between the BPA chemical used in food packaging and childhood obesity, but the researchers say their findings don't prove it's the cause. While most people have traces of the plastics chemical in their bodies, the study found that children with the highest levels in their urine were twice as likely to be obese than those with the lowest.

(Photo)

larger. And studies have suggested a possible tie between urinary BPA levels and obesity-related illnesses in adults, including diabetes and heart disease.

In the new study, Trasande and his colleagues used information from an annual federal health survey, which includes weighing

were obese, compared to just 10 percent of kids with the lowest levels.

Was the reverse true? Did the heaviest kids have more BPA in their urine, and the thinnest kids less? Yes, Trasande said. But he did not include those numbers in his study and declined to provide them. □



Teenage girls may prefer 'the pill' (above), the patch or even wishful thinking, but their doctors should be recommending IUDs or hormonal implants — long-lasting and more effective birth control that you don't have to remember to use every time, the nation's leading gynecologists group said Thursday.

(Handout Photo)

IUDs, implants urged for teen girls' birth control

LINDSEY TANNER

Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Teenage girls may prefer the pill, the patch or even wishful thinking, but their doctors should be recommending IUDs or hormonal implants — long-lasting and more effective birth control that you don't have to remember to use every time, the nation's leading gynecologists group said Thursday. The IUD and implants are safe and nearly 100 percent effective at preventing pregnancy, and should be "first-line recommendations," the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists said in updating its guidance for teens. Both types of contraception are more invasive than the pill, requiring a doctor to put them in place. That, and cost, are probably why the pill is still the most popular form of contraception in the U.S. But birth control pills often must be taken at the very same time every day to be most potent. And forgetting to take even one can lead to pregnancy, which is why the pill is sometimes only 91 percent effective. An IUD, or intrauterine device, is a small, T-shaped piece of plastic inserted in the uterus that can prevent pregnancy for up to 10 years. An implant is a

matchstick-size plastic rod that releases hormones. It is placed under the skin of the upper arm and usually lasts three years.

The new guidelines don't tell teens not to use other methods, but "if your goal is to prevent a pregnancy, then using an implant or an IUD would be the best way to do this," said Dr. Tina Raine-Bennett, head of the committee that wrote the recommendations.

The organization's previous guidelines, issued in 2007, also encouraged the use of IUDs and implants among teenagers. The new guidelines go further in saying physicians should discuss the two types of birth control with sexually active teens at every doctor visit. The gynecologists group said condoms should still be used at all times because no other birth control method protects against AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.

While it may sound surprising that such invasive contraceptives are being endorsed for teenagers, 43 percent of girls ages 15 to 19 have had sex, a government survey found. Most are using some kind of effective birth control, but only about 5 percent use the long-lasting devices, the gynecologists group said. □

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PETER SVENSSON

AP Technology Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — With a touch of geek whimsy, Google Maps warns anyone who seeks walking directions to Mordor —the land of evil in “The Lord of the Rings”— to use caution. “One does not simply walk into Mordor,” it says. Apple is finding this week that creating an alternative to Google Maps isn’t a simple walk, either.

Apple released an update to its iPhone and iPad operating system on Wednesday that replaces Google Maps with Apple’s own application. Early upgraders are reporting that the new maps are less detailed, look weird and misplace landmarks. It’s shaping up to be a rare setback for Apple. “It’s a complete failure,” said Jeffrey Jorgensen. “It’s slower, its directions are poorer and its location data doesn’t seem to be accurate. All around, it’s not quite there yet.”

Jorgensen, a user interface designer for a San Francisco-based startup, began using Apple Maps months ago, because Apple made it available early to people in its software development program. He said he finds himself relying on Google Maps running on his wife’s Android phone instead. The most-hyped feature of the new app is a “Flyby” mode that shows three-dimensional renderings of

buildings and other features. It presents a convincing depiction of the canyons of Manhattan, but has a hard time rendering bridges and highway overpasses, which tend to look wobbly or partly collapsed. The Apple app also has a tendency to judge landscape features by their names. For instance, it marks the hulking Madison Square Garden arena in New York as green park space because of the word “Garden” in its name. The TD Garden football stadium in Boston gets the same treatment.

Conversely, Apple Maps marks “Airfield Gardens,” a farm and plant nursery in Dublin, Ireland, as an airfield. This prompted the country’s Justice Minister, Alan Shatter, to warn pilots on Thursday not to land there.

“Clearly the designation is not only wrong but is dangerously misleading in that it could result in a pilot, unfamiliar with the area, in an emergency situation and without other available information, attempting a landing,” he said.

Marcus Thielking, the co-founder of mapping-app developer Skobbler, said the lapses of the Apple app are surprising, particularly since Apple purchases map data from an established provider, Tele Atlas. “The combination of Apple and TomTom screwing up

something like this is very odd. Apple is not the first and only company using Tele Atlas maps,” Thielking said.

Tele Atlas is a subsidiary of TomTom, a Dutch maker of navigation devices.

“We launched this new map service knowing it is a major initiative and we are just getting started,” said Apple spokeswoman Trudy Muller. The app will work better the more people use it, she said, alluding to fact that users can report errors and omissions from within the app.

Google has been in the mapping game for much longer, giving it the benefit of years of error reports to help shape its maps. There’s been a Google Maps app on the iPhone since it was launched in 2007, but it’s always come with the operating system. Now that it’s gone from the list of “core” apps, users are finding that it’s not available for download either. Google says its goal is to make Maps available, but hasn’t said when that will be.

In the meantime, iPhone and iPad owners can access maps.google.com through their browser, said Google spokesman Nate Tyler. The browser version has fewer features but uses a comprehensive mapping database, he said. Last year, Apple released another software prod-



The new Apple Maps application is demonstrated in New York on Thursday, Sept. 20, 2012.

Associated Press

uct that many regard as half-baked: the voice-controlled virtual assistant Siri. But Siri’s ability to —at least sometimes— understand spoken queries was some-

thing most users hadn’t met before, so they forgave its lapses. With Maps, Apple is replacing an app nearly every smartphone user is already familiar with. □

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US stocks trend lower along with global markets

MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — A batch of worrying economic figures tugged stock markets slightly lower Thursday. Measures of manufacturing and business activity in both China and Europe slumped.

In the U.S., the railroad Norfolk Southern warned that it's shipping fewer goods, and the government gave investors another reminder that the job market remains weak.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 0.79 of a point to close at 1,460.26. The Nasdaq composite index dropped 6.66 points to 3,175.96. Three stocks fell for every two that rose on the New York Stock Exchange. Stock-market indexes reached four-year highs last week after the Federal Reserve unveiled a new plan to support the economy. Clark Yingst, chief market analyst at the securities firm Joseph Gunnar, said economic reports continue to draw a picture of an economic recovery

stuck in low gear. To Yingst, it's hard to find any reason for stocks to climb much higher.

"You do have to wonder what the next catalyst is going to be," he said.

The Labor Department reported that 382,000 people applied for unemployment benefits last week, more than economists had expected. When applications consistently top 375,000, it suggests hiring is too weak to lower the unemployment rate.

More evidence of sluggishness came from Norfolk Southern. The railroad said late Thursday that falling coal prices and a drop in shipments will likely drag down quarterly earnings. That followed a warning from FedEx earlier this week that global trade has slumped to recession levels. Norfolk Southern's stock sank \$6.58 to \$66.11.

In other trading, the Dow Jones industrial average gained 18.97 points to 13,596.93. Kraft Foods led the Dow up with a 1.9 percent surge, ending up 76

cents at \$41.60.

Stronger earnings pushed ConAgra Foods up 6.2 percent. The maker of Healthy Choice packaged meals

\$1.59 to \$27.24.

The real-estate website Trulia soared 41 percent in its first day of trading. Trulia priced its initial public of-

percent in September, historically the worst month for stocks. Since 1950, the S&P 500 has averaged a drop of 0.5 percent for the month. The Dow has lost an average of 0.8 percent.

Among other stocks making moves:

- Starbucks gained \$1.08 to \$51.19. The coffee giant said it will start selling a single-serve coffee machine starting at \$199. The Verismo will compete with Green Mountain Coffee Roasters' Keurig machine and Nestle's Nespresso.

- Bed Bath & Beyond dropped \$6.71 to \$62.08. The housewares company reported quarterly earnings late Wednesday that fell short of analysts' expectations and said profits will likely stay under pressure.

- CarMax sank 6 percent after the chain of used-car dealers reported essentially flat quarterly net income, below analysts' expectations. Costs surged as CarMax opened more dealerships. Its stock lost \$2.01 to \$29.96. □



Trader Frederick Reimer works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Thursday, Sept. 20, 2012. A batch of worrying economic figures tugged stock markets slightly lower Thursday. Measures of manufacturing and business activity in both China and Europe slumped. In the U.S., the railroad Norfolk Southern warned that it's shipping fewer goods, and the government gave investors another reminder that the job market remains weak.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

and Slim Jim beef jerky said its profit more than doubled, helped by lower food costs and a strong gain from a hedge on commodity prices. ConAgra's stock rose

fering at \$17 on Wednesday, raising \$102 million. Trulia's stock closed at an even \$24.

The three major indexes have gained nearly 4

Stock buybacks rise after two quarters of declines

MARK JEWELL
AP Business Writer

BOSTON (AP) — America's biggest corporations dipped into their flush cash reserves to reward shareholders by spending more to buy back their stock in the second quarter.

Share repurchases by companies in the Standard & Poor's 500 index totaled nearly \$112 billion from April through June, S&P Dow Jones Indices said on Thursday. That's up about one-third from \$84 billion in the first three months of the year. Repurchases are attractive options now for companies to put their cash reserves to work. Cash holdings have risen steadily since the financial crisis, climbing to a record \$1.03 trillion among S&P 500 companies during last year's fourth quarter. Cash slipped to \$985 billion

in the latest quarter due to increased spending on mergers and acquisitions, but reserves remain historically high, said Howard Silverblatt, an S&P Dow Jones Indices analyst.

Stocks fell 3.3 percent in the second quarter, so many companies were able to buy back shares at lower prices than they could when the market was higher.

By repurchasing stock, companies reward investors by increasing the value of remaining shares. Per-share earnings can also get a lift as results are divided among fewer shares.

The latest quarter's buyback total was the biggest since the \$118 billion spent in last year's third quarter. Buybacks fell in the fourth quarter and in

the first three months of this year, but remain historically high. They hit a record \$172 billion in the third quarter of 2007.

In the latest quarter, health-care companies were the most aggressive in buying back stock. The sector recorded \$23.8 billion in buybacks, including a \$12.9 billion share repurchase by Johnson & Johnson.

Information technology companies were the second most active, with a total \$21.6 billion in buybacks. After Johnson & Johnson, the company with the biggest share repurchase total for the quarter was Exxon Mobil Corp., with \$5 billion, followed by another energy company, ConocoPhillips, at nearly \$3.1 billion. For the current quarter, Silverblatt expects buybacks to continue growing. □

Oracle's 1Q earnings rise, but revenue disappoints

MICHAEL LIEDTKE

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Oracle's earnings matched analyst estimates in the latest quarter, but a revenue decline signaled the business software maker is having a tougher time closing deals.

The fiscal first-quarter results announced Thursday are the latest indication that companies and government agencies are clamping down on technology spending amid mounting uncertainty about the economy.

Oracle Corp. earned \$2.03 billion, or 41 cents, per

52 cents to \$32.26.

Like many U.S. companies that depend on overseas customers for a lot of their sales, Oracle was hurt by weakening currencies in Europe and other parts of the world.

The currency fluctuations translated into fewer dollars during the latest quarter compared to a year ago.

If exchange rates had remained unchanged, Oracle said its earnings per share would have been higher by 3 cents and its revenue would have edged up by 3 percent instead of dropping. □



Oracle Headquarters are seen in Redwood Shores. Oracle's earnings matched analyst estimates in the latest quarter, but a revenue decline signaled the business software maker is having a tougher time closing deals.

(Handout Photo)

share for the three-month stretch ending in August.

That's an 11 percent increase from income of \$1.84 billion, or 36 cents per share, at the same time last year.

Excluding certain accounting items, the Redwood City, Calif., company says it earned 53 cents per share, mirroring analyst projections.

Revenue dipped 2 percent from last year to \$8.18 billion. That was more than \$200 million below analyst forecasts.

Oracle shares shed 62 cents in extended trading to \$32.06 after the numbers came out. In regular trading, they had closed down

Reports: US economy hobbled by weak hiring, manufacturing

CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER
MARTIN CRUTSINGER

AP Economics Writers

WASHINGTON (AP) —

A trio of reports Thursday offered a reminder that the U.S. economy is struggling to grow and add jobs.

The number of Americans seeking unemployment benefits last week stayed near a level that signals only weak hiring in September. Manufacturing shrank for a fifth straight month in the Philadelphia region, a sign that weaker global growth has hurt demand for American-made goods. And a measure of future economy activity declined for the second time in three months.

The data followed a poor month of hiring in August and the Federal Reserve's move last week to launch new stimulus measures to give the hobbled recovery a jolt.

"There certainly doesn't appear to be much improvement in the performance of the economy," said Sam Bullard, senior economist at Wells Fargo Securities. "Manufacturing continues to soften and decelerate. We shouldn't expect to see substantial gains in hiring or output from manufacturers any time soon."

Thursday's reports showed: — Weekly applications for

unemployment benefits fell by only 3,000 last week to a seasonally adjusted 382,000, the Labor Department said. The four-week average, a less volatile measure, rose for the fifth

slight improvement from 30 percent of firms in August. The region includes firms in Pennsylvania, Delaware and New Jersey.

— The Conference Board said its index of leading indi-



Job applicants wait for the opening of a job fair held by National Career Fairs in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. A trio of reports Thursday offered a reminder that the U.S. economy is struggling to grow and add jobs. The number of Americans seeking unemployment benefits last week stayed near a level that signals only weak hiring in September.

(AP Photo/Lynne Sladky)

straight week to 377,750. Applications, which are a proxy for layoffs, typically need to fall below 375,000 consistently to signal the job market is strong enough to lower unemployment.

— The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia says its September index of regional manufacturing activity stayed below zero, which signals contraction in the market. While the index rose to -1.9, it has been negative since May. Nearly 23 percent of firms in the region reported declines in activity this month, only

cators dipped 0.1 percent in August. The report noted that manufacturing orders, consumer confidence and average weekly manufacturing hours all slipped. The index is intended to anticipate economic conditions three to six months out.

Hiring has languished since winter, and the unemployment rate remains elevated at 8.1 percent.

U.S. manufacturing, which had helped pulled the economy out of the Great Recession three years ago, has weakened since the spring. □

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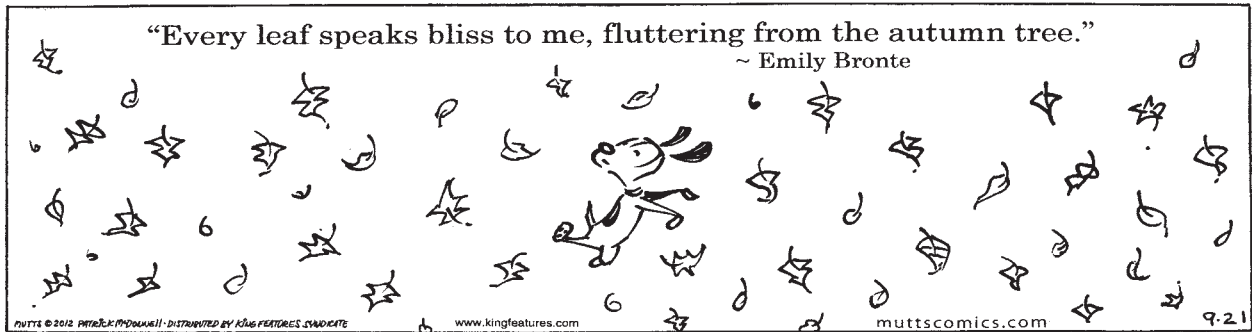
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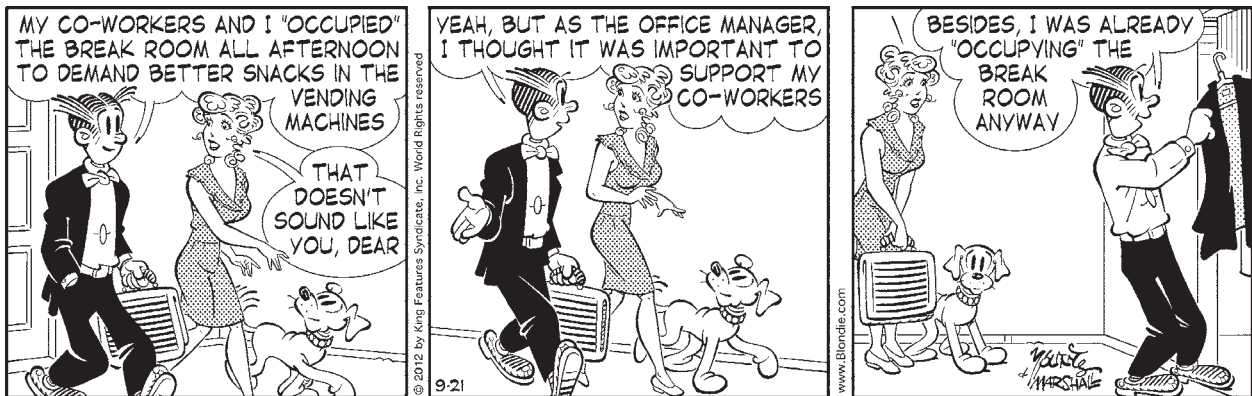
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6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	4	9			1			
						8		4
	7							1
1			9		6			
				7				
			4		5			3
2							9	
6		1						
			8			7	2	

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

9/21

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

4	8	9	1	5	6	3	2	7
7	6	5	8	3	2	1	4	9
2	3	1	9	4	7	6	8	5
8	9	2	7	1	3	4	5	6
1	5	6	4	9	8	7	3	2
3	7	4	6	2	5	8	9	1
5	1	7	3	8	9	2	6	4
9	4	3	2	6	1	5	7	8
6	2	8	5	7	4	9	1	3

ACROSS

- Stayed out of sight
- Piece of shattered glass
- Sharp flavor
- Nation in the Middle East
- ___ Rapids, Iowa
- Bewildered
- Musical sound
- Raised strip
- Tiny thin bottle
- Trenton's state
- Actor James ___ Jones
- Plants seed
- ___, HST, DDE, JFK...
- Humiliates
- Rejecting disdainfully
- Upright; ethical
- Donald Duck's sweetheart
- Man's title
- "So be it!"
- Subdues
- Escape
- Adriatic or Red
- Flies alone
- Bit of a jigsaw puzzle
- Frenzy
- Talked back
- At ___ time; in the past
- Chopped meat dish
- Long tale
- Evaluating
- 4 ___ 5 is 9
- Actress Shore
- Fiddling Roman emperor
- "Say it ___ so!"
- Virgin ___ oil
- Expanded
- Prying
- Lassos
- Easter egg coloring
- Threaded metal fasteners
- Those listed in a will
- ___ up; tallies
- In a ___; furious
- Actor Richard
- Saloon
- Large continent
- Within reach
- Boldness
- Cronkite or Brokaw
- Actor McCrea
- Waterless
- Crush violently
- Like a cozy house
- Regions
- American ___
- Pago Pago's location
- Bakery items
- Cruise ship stops, perhaps
- Dorothy, to Em
- Avarice
- Surrealist
- Salvador ___
- Big success
- Smooth out
- Copenhagen

DOWN

- Big success
- Smooth out
- Copenhagen

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13			14		15				16		
17					18				19		
	20			21					22		
			23				24	25			
26	27	28				29	30		31	32	33
34					35				36		
37				38					39		
40			41					42			
43		44					45				
			46				47				
48	49	50			51	52	53		54	55	
56					57				58		59
60					61				62		
63					64				65		

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

9/21/12

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

B	I	K	E		F	O	A	L	S		P	A	C	K
E	D	N	A		R	I	F	L	E		A	C	H	E
S	L	O	T		A	L	T	A	R		D	R	A	G
T	E	T	A	N	U	S		M	U	R	D	E	R	S
				B	U	D		C	A	M	E	L		
S	A	U	L	T		S	O	S		B	E	A	R	S
W	A	N	E		H	I	M		B	U	D	G	E	T
A	R	C		P	A	R	F	A	I	T		I	V	E
M	O	A	N	E		O	D	D		P	L	E	A	
I	N	P	U	T		P	R	O		S	H	E	L	L
				C	A	D	E	T		T	E	A		
S	H	A	L	L	O		I	R	A	N	I	A	N	
H	O	L	E		I	T	A	L	I		T	O	G	O
E	M	M	A		N	E	C	K	S		O	W	E	S
D	E	A	R		G	R	E	A	T		M	A	D	E

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9/21/12

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| 38 Bullfighter | 47 Lift and throw |
| 39 Using rod and reel | 48 Rotate |
| 41 John McCain's title: abbr. | 49 Too |
| 42 ___ up; waive | 50 Pistols |
| 44 Comfortably warm | 52 Storage tower |
| 45 Obis & others | 53 Tiny cut |
| | 54 Bookish fellow |
| | 55 Writer Zane ___ |
| | 59 Run up a tab |

Celebrity offspring DJs: Spinning the family name

JOSHUA DAVID STEIN
© 2012 New York Times

On the eve of New York Fashion Week, Target held a splashy party in a former carriage house on West 15th Street that had been transformed into four brightly colored pop-up shops. It was as if a suburban mall had momentarily alighted in the meatpacking district.

Hundreds of guests browsed the latest collaboration between Target and indie labels like Odin and PatchNYC, including the celebrities Jessica Chastain, Hailee Steinfeld and Lauren Bush Lauren, all of whom wafted through like angels in the food court.

There was another win-scion there: Alexandra Richards, 26, a daughter of the Rolling Stones guitarist Keith Richards. Richards wore a gauzy bustier-like blouse and a starry skirt, by Target of course.

But after posing on the red carpet, Richards wasn't browsing the racks or sipping cocktails. Rather, she stood behind a small folding table, propped before two turntables and a laptop, playing classics from her father's generation (Led Zeppelin, the Spinners, the Clovers) and hits from her own (Azealia Banks, M83, the Black Keys).

"I love playing the classics that everybody recognizes but mixing it up a little with obscure tracks," said Richards, headphones wedged between her shoulder and ear, as models and shoppers walked by.

Richards is one of the many children of celebrities who have turned to turntables to eke out a living. And why not? As a party DJ, the hours are easy, there is not much in the way of formal training, the pay can be pretty good and, best of all, a boldface last name all but guarantees a gig.

A scan of party invitations in New York, Los Angeles, Miami and Las Vegas reveals a growing list of DJs with celebrity parents: Connor Cruise, 17, the son of Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman; DJ Demetrius Mosley, 20, a son of the record producer

Timbaland; Hannah Bronfman, 24, an heiress to the Bronfman family fortune; and Pierre Sarkozy, 27, a son of Nicolas Sarkozy, the former president of France. They are joined occasionally by Richard Hilfiger, 22,

treats many children of celebrities. DJing, he added, "puts you in a powerful and protected position for that moment." That might explain the allure for the young Cruise, 17, who often sports a



Alexandra Richards, daughter of Rolling Stone's guitarist Keith Richards, during a Target fall launch party where she disc jockeyed in New York. Many children of celebrities are turning to turntables to make money. (Ben Sklar/The New York Times)

a son of Tommy Hilfiger, and Chester Hanks, 22, a son of Tom Hanks, though they are more rapper than DJ, technically speaking.

"A lot of people think DJing is easy, and a lot of people think DJs are cool," said Rob Principe, a founder of Scratch DJ Academy, a decade-old DJ school with campuses in Los Angeles, New York and Miami. "So I can see how it would be appealing to pursue it as a profession if you don't have to worry about income, like these kids."

Being a DJ also lets them set their own path to fame. "These children might be trying to avoid Frank Sinatra Jr. syndrome, that is, becoming a second-rate imitation of their parents," said Dr. John Altman, a psychiatrist in Los Angeles who

mohawk and is frequently photographed flashing a peace sign. He celebrated his birthday in January with a party in Los Angeles at the chic Hyde Lounge at Staples Center, where his birthday cake was shaped like two Pioneer CDJ-2000 turntables and a mixer.

The party was sponsored by California Superstores, an auto dealer chain, and Just Dance 3, a Nintendo Wii video game.

Since then Cruise, who performs under the name DJ C-Squared, has hit the corporate DJ circuit. In July, he performed at American Eagle Outfitters' store in Times Square, playing an eclectic mix that included Whitney Houston, Gotye and Coldplay, according to an article in People magazine devoted to his

store appearance.

He has also played at Comic-Con for the gaming channel IGN, and for the opening of a Katsuya, a Japanese restaurant, in San Diego. According to The New York Post, Cruise's fee for a two-hour set is \$10,000.

With fees that high, "it's easy to see why these DJs perform at corporate events," said Emily Bungert, a partner at People's Revolution, a New York public relations firm that specializes in fashion events. "That's where the budgets are."

Cruise, however, seems to be at pains to prove his DJ bona fides. He recently hired William Derella, the manager who turned the Black Eyed Peas into a marketing juggernaut, and embarked on a weeklong European tour that included stops at clubs in London, Zurich and Dusseldorf.

Of course, one of the fringe benefits of booking a teenage DJ with a famous last name is that Daddy sometimes shows up. At an August appearance at the London members-only club Chinawhite, the younger Cruise was joined by his father, an occasion that warranted breathless coverage in The Sun and The Daily Mail. "Daddy cool Tom Cruise checks out son Connor's DJ set at London club," wrote Hello! magazine.

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ALICIA CHANG
PAUL DAVENPORT
Associated Press

Endeavour's highly anticipated homecoming was twice delayed by stormy weather along the Gulf of Mexico. Early Wednesday,

After three decades of service, NASA permanently grounded the shuttles last year under a White House mandate to focus on destinations beyond low-Earth orbit with goals to land astronauts on an asteroid and eventually on Mars. The space agency is relying on Russian rockets to the space station until private companies can provide regular taxi service to the giant orbiting lab. □



Associated Press

After refueling in El Paso, Texas, Thursday, it flew over the White Sands Test Facility in New Mexico, an emergency shuttle landing site

Endeavour's maiden voyage into space two decades ago ended with a planned touchdown at NASA's Dryden Flight Re-

Six years after the Challenger tragedy, during Endeavour's first flight, three space-walking astronauts made a daring rescue of a stranded communications satellite. A year later, it was launched on a service repair mission to the Hubble Space Telescope. Endeavour flew 25 times, mostly to supply the International Space Station. It spent 299 days in space and circled Earth nearly 4,700 times, logging 123 million miles (198 million kilo-

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Buddy Guy looks to the future of the blues

CARYN ROUSSEAU

Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Ask Chicago guitar legend Buddy Guy about the future of the blues and he'll give a depressing — but direct — answer.

"It's scary," Guy said during an interview upstairs at his club, Buddy Guy's Legends, in Chicago's South Loop. "I'm still going to play my music because I love what I'm doing, but we need all the support we can to keep the blues alive."

After five decades in the business, Guy is doing what he can to make sure the genre — and his late contemporaries like Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf and Junior Wells — lives on. Earlier this year Guy wrote his autobiography, "When I Left Home," and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame member is mentoring Massachusetts eighth-grader and blues guitarist Quinn Sullivan.

And Guy will likely garner attention in December when he receives a 2012 Kennedy Center Honor.

"He has expressed his fear that it may be all lost after he's gone," said Janice Monti, a sociology professor at Dominican University who studies blues music. "I

think as he's gotten older he's incredibly aware of this mandate he received from Muddy and the Wolf to keep this all going."

Guy says blues music is ignored in an entertainment marketplace obsessed with young artists.

"It's a tough time for blues because if it was being played, other than satellite radio, on the peak hours, prime time, then somebody would know about it," Guy said.

That's one of the reasons the 76-year-old Guy took on mentoring 13-year-old Sullivan, who he said plays "as well as Eric Clapton, me and B.B. King. How do you learn that at that age? That's a natural." Guy has Sullivan open for him on tour and record on his label.

"If you don't have role models the young people now will not learn how to play," Guy said.

The relationship is a boon for Sullivan, who said he most enjoys trading guitar licks with Guy.

"I have a smile on my face every time I'm in his presence," Sullivan said. "He's a living legend. I couldn't ask for more. It's just a great thing that he's helping me with my career."



In this Aug. 3, 2012 photo, blues great Buddy Guy is seen during an interview with the Associated Press at his club Buddy Guy's Legends in Chicago's South Loop.

Associated Press

In Chicago, Guy found work driving a tow truck during the day and playing blues clubs at night. Guy eventually earned a spot as a regular session musician at the city's famed Chess Records and found a mentor in blues musician and producer Willie Dixon. Guy formed a band with Junior Wells and played with The Rolling Stones and the Grateful Dead.

Guy developed his own re-

cording career later, with music like the 1991 best-selling record, "Damn Right, I've Got the Blues."

Spreading the news of the blues was another reason Guy decided to team with author David Ritz to write his autobiography.

"I just want a true story about some of the great people who didn't write a book and left me with this history of information," Guy said.

The book details his childhood in Louisiana, his move to Chicago 55 years ago and his music career.

He said he considers his performance for President Barack Obama at the White House in February with Stones singer Mick Jagger to be the professional pinnacle of his career.

Guy successfully prodded the president to sing a few lines of "Sweet Home Chicago."

Empty chairs again for Eastwood at film premiere

By MIKE CIDONI LENNOX

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Three weeks ago, Clint Eastwood shared the spotlight with a single chair.

On Wednesday night, he shared it with more than a dozen. The 82-year-old Oscar winner walked the press gauntlet at the Westwood premiere of his latest film "Trouble With the Curve" — with 16 empty chairs right behind him.

When it was pointed out to him, the Oscar winner chuckled as he quickly and clearly got the reference.

"Oh my God, yes," he said, with a laugh.

On Aug. 30, Eastwood stood on stage at the Republican National Convention berating an empty chair, representing President Barack Obama. The chairs were simply set dressing: bleacher seats lined up along the green carpet at the premiere for "Trouble With the Curve," a family drama about a fading baseball-scout father played by Eastwood and his estranged daughter, played by Amy Adams. They provide the film's real action, while the game is simply a backdrop. Representatives from the film's distributor, Warner Bros., politely requested

press not ask about Eastwood's RNC appearance, noting it had gotten enough attention and may be overshadowing the film itself. "I don't know," replied "Curve" director Robert Lorenz. "Some people may come and some people may not because of it. But, in the end, it's not a political movie. Myself, the other cast (members), we all have different political ideas. We all came together and put those aside. So, I hope people treat it as such."

Eastwood has addressed the RNC appearance with numerous journalists, but



Cast member Clint Eastwood attends the premiere of "Trouble With the Curve" at the Westwood Village Theater on Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2012, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

that hasn't kept it out of mainstream consciousness — perhaps coming to a head last weekend, when comic-actor Bill Hader recreated Eastwood's empty-chair routine, for laughs, on "Saturday Night Live."

Eastwood said he saw the

"SNL" skit and enjoyed it, and praised Hader. Eastwood also said he'd continue to stump for Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney.

"Sure I would," Eastwood noted. "I just think we need a change, that's all."



In this photo taken Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2011, Pulitzer Prize-winning movie critic Roger Ebert works in his office at the WTTW-TV studios in Chicago.

Sundance to honor film critic Roger Ebert

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Critic Roger Ebert is receiving an award from Robert Redford's Sundance Institute for his support of independent cinema.

Sundance leaders said Thursday that Ebert will receive their Vanguard Leadership Award at a benefit for the institute June 5 in Los Angeles.

Redford says Ebert was one of the institute's first supporters when Sundance was founded in 1980 to

support independent film. Sundance Institute executive director Keri Putnam says Ebert has been a champion of challenging films, including many premiering at the Sundance Film Festival.

The 70-year-old Ebert has been reviewing films for the Chicago Sun-Times since 1967 and was the nation's foremost movie critic on television on shows such as "Sneak Previews" and "At the Movies." □



This March 14, 2012 file photo shows Fiona Apple performing at the NPR showcase during the SXSW Music Festival in Austin, Texas.

Associated Press

Fiona Apple arrested for hashish in West Texas

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — Singer-songwriter Fiona Apple has been arrested for hashish possession at a West Texas town after a Border Patrol drug-sniffing dog detected marijuana in her tour bus. Hudspeth County sheriff's office spokesman Rusty Flemming says Apple spent Wednesday night in the county jail and was released Thursday on a \$10,000 bond.

Fleming says Apple "had a little tiny amount of pot and hash." Fleming says mari-

juana possession in small amounts is a misdemeanor, while hashish in any quantity is a felony in Texas.

Apple's publicist, Ambrosia Healy, didn't immediately respond to an email request for comment.

The Sierra Blanca checkpoint inspects thousands of vehicles daily and sends the town thousands of drug cases yearly. Willie Nelson, Snoop Dogg and actor Armand Hammer have been arrested in Sierra Blanca on marijuana charges. □

Redfoo talks LMFAO hiatus, sports interests

NEKESA MUMBI MOODY
AP Entertainment Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — LMFAO's Redfoo is still party rocking, but these days, he's doing it without his partner-in-fun, Sky Blu.

Redfoo says he and Sky Blu — who is also his nephew — are taking a break as they focus on their own interests, personally and professionally.

"I feel like we've been doing this for so long, five or six years. And we're kind of like saying, well, let's just do what's natural and just kind of explore that, instead of like forcing it all the time," Redfoo, 37, explained in a phone interview earlier this week.

For the wild-haired Redfoo, his explorations have not only taken him to record new music solo, they have also opened up a world in sports.

Earlier this month, he was in the stands at the U.S. Open rooting on new BFF Victoria Azarenka, who lost to Serena Williams for the women's championship. He's also been performing on some dates with the Fierce Five of women's gymnastics as

the gold-winning Olympic team tours the nation, and he's been spending time on the tennis courts in Las Vegas as a coach for a junior player.

Redfoo said he recently began coaching Ayaka Okuno, practicing several hours a day with her in Las Vegas.

"I kind of use the Phil Jackson approach which I teach her some vague things — I teach her how to think for herself on the court," he said. "She's really good at self-analyzing." He's also planning his own line of tennis clothing and sponsoring the United States Tennis Association's Party Rock Open in Las Vegas starting Sunday.

Tennis isn't his only love, though. He's performed on the USA Gymnastics tour, and he is also trying to make a tune for the New England Patriots.

"I'm actually working on a song for them, because they asked me to write a song for their season," he said of the Krafts, who own the team.

But it will likely be some time before he writes anything



This Dec. 9, 2011 file photo shows singer Redfoo of LMFAO performing at Z100's Jingle Ball concert at Madison Square Garden in New York. Associated Press

for LMFAO. Although he's been recording, he didn't know when he and Sky Blu might unite musically, adding that they are going in "different directions."

"I think that we naturally just started hanging with two different sets of people, two different crowds, but we're always family," he said. "He'll always be my nephew, I'll always be his uncle."

As for his solo material, Redfoo says he won't be straying far from hits like "Sexy and I Know It" and "Party Rock Anthem." □

Scarlett Johansson to play 'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof'



This May 7, 2012 file photo shows actress Scarlett Johansson arriving at the Metropolitan Museum of Art Costume Institute gala benefit in New York.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Scarlett Johansson will tap into her feline side later this year when she plays Maggie the Cat on Broadway.

Producers on Thursday announced the Tony Award-winning Johansson for a revival of Tennessee Williams's "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof."

It will be Johansson's first time back on Broadway since winning a Tony in the Arthur Miller play "A View from a Bridge" opposite Liev Schreiber in 2010.

Benjamin Walker, who starred in "Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson," will play her husband, and Debra Monk will be Big Mama.

The new "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" will begin previews at the Richard Rodgers Theater on Dec. 18 and open Jan. 17. It marks the play's fifth revival on Broadway. □

Look In Your Mirror



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN
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On Monday, David D. Kirkpatrick, the Cairo bureau chief for The Times, quoted one of the Egyptian demonstrators outside the U.S. Embassy, Khaled Ali, as justifying last week's violent protests by declaring: "We never insult any prophet – not Moses, not Jesus – so why can't we demand that Muhammad be respected?" Ali, a 39-year-old textile worker, was holding up a handwritten sign in English that read: "Shut Up America." "Obama is the president, so he should have to apologize!"

I read several such comments from the rioters in the press last week, and I have big problem with them. I don't like to see anyone's faith insulted, but we need to make two things very clear – more clear than President Barack Obama's team has made them. One is that an insult – even one as stupid and ugly as the anti-Islam video on YouTube that started all of this – does not entitle people to go out and attack embassies and kill innocent diplomats. That is not how a proper self-governing people behave. There is no excuse for it. It is shameful.

And, second, before demanding an apology from our president, Ali and the young Egyptians, Tunisians, Libyans, Yemenis, Pakistanis, Afghans and Sudanese who have been taking to the streets might want to look in the mirror – or just turn on their own televisions. They might want to look at the chauvinistic bile that is pumped out by some of their own media – on satellite television stations and websites or sold in sidewalk bookstores outside of mosques – insulting Shiites, Jews, Christians, Sufis and anyone else who is not a Sunni, or fundamentalist, Muslim. There are people in their countries for whom hating "the other" has become a source of identity and a collective excuse for failing to realize their own potential. The Middle East Media Research Institute, or MEMRI, was founded in 1998 in Washington, by Yigal Carmon, a former Israeli government adviser on counterterrorism, "to bridge the language gap between the Middle East and the West by monitoring, translating and studying Arab, Iranian, Urdu and Pashtu media, schoolbooks, and religious sermons." What I respect about MEMRI is that it translates not only the ugly stuff but the courageous liberal, reformist Arab commentators as well. I asked MEMRI for a sampler of the hate-filled videos that appear regularly on Arab/Muslim mass media. Here are some:

ON CHRISTIANS

Hasan Rahimpur Azghadi of the Iranian Supreme Council for Cultural Revolution: Christianity is "a reeking corpse, on which you have to constantly pour eau de cologne and perfume, and wash it in order to keep it clean." <http://www.memritv.org/clip/en/1528.htm> – July 20, 2007.

Sheik Al-Khatib al-Baghdadi: It is permissible to spill the blood of the Iraqi Christians – and a duty to wage jihad against them. <http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/5200.htm> – April 14, 2011.

Abd al-Aziz Fawzan al-Fawzan, a Saudi professor of Islamic law, calls for "positive hatred" of Christians. Al-Majd TV (Saudi Arabia) <http://www.memritv.org/clip/en992.htm> – Dec. 16, 2005. Former Manhattan Mosque Imam Imran Nazar Hosein: "Dajjal The Anti-Christ Is Almost Ruling The World Now." <http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/51/6489.htm> – July 2, 2012.

ON SHIITES

The Egyptian Cleric Muhammad Hussein Yaaqub: "Muslim Brotherhood Presidential Candidate Mohammed Morsi told me that the Shiites are more dangerous to Islam than the Jews." www.memritv.org/clip/en/3466.htm – June 13, 2012.

The Egyptian Cleric Mazen al-Sirsawi: "If Allah had not created the Shiites as human beings, they would have been donkeys" <http://www.memritv.org/clip/en/3101.htm> – Aug. 7, 2011. The Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan video series: "The Shiite is a Nasl Race/Offspring of Jews." <http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/51/6208.htm> – March 21, 2012.

ON JEWS

Article on the Muslim Brotherhood's website praises jihad against America and the Jews: "The Descendants of Apes and Pigs." <http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/51/6656.htm> – Sept. 7, 2012.

The Pakistani cleric Muhammad Raza Saqib Mustafai: "When the Jews are wiped out, the world would be purified and the sun of peace would rise on the entire world." <http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/51/6557.htm> – Aug. 1, 2012.

Dr. Ismail Ali Muhammad, a senior Al-Azhar scholar: The Jews, "a source of evil and harm in all human societies." <http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/51/6086.htm> – Feb. 14, 2012.

ON SUFIS

A shrine venerating a Sufi Muslim saint in Libya has been partly destroyed, the latest in a series of attacks blamed on ultraconservative Salafi Islamists. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-19380083> Aug. 26, 2012. As a Jew who has lived and worked in the Muslim world, I know that these expressions of intolerance are only one side of the story and that there are deeply tolerant views and strains of Islam espoused and practiced there as well. □



Mitt's Snake-Bit Season



GAIL COLLINS
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Our topic for today is: When Bad Things Happen to Mitt Romney. Really, it's been the worst run of disasters this side of the Mayan calendar. The Republicans' woes started last Friday, when Ann and Mitt filmed a TV interview in which they entertained the kind of personal questions that most candidates learned to avoid after Bill Clinton did that boxers-versus-briefs thing. Asked what he wears to bed, Mitt said: "I think the best answer is: as little as possible." Euwww. Then, over the weekend, Romney aides began spilling their guts about how other staffers had screwed up the Republicans' bounce-free convention. In an attempt to change the conversation, the campaign announced that it had just realized the nation wants Romney to say what he'd actually do as president. Voters "are eager to hear more details about policies to turn our economy around," said an adviser, Ed Gillespie. In search of just such specificity, the scoop-hungry Christian Broadcasting Network asked Paul Ryan if he would continue refusing to identify exactly what tax loopholes the Romney administration would close in order to turn our economy around. "Yes," said Ryan, who then veered into a disquisition about something that once happened to Tip O'Neill. You may be wondering what-ever became of Ryan, who was

such a big sensation when Romney first picked him as a running mate. Since Tampa, he seems to have fallen off the face of the earth, resurfacing every now and then to put up another ad for re-election to his House seat in Wisconsin.

It's not all that unusual for a vice-presidential candidate to go low-profile. And it is totally not true that Mitt Romney strapped Paul Ryan to the top of a car and drove him to Canada. Stop spreading rumors!

Next, Mother Jones published that video of the fundraiser in Boca Raton in which Romney said that 47 percent of the country is composed of moochers who want to confiscate the earnings of hard-working stockbrokers and spend it on caviar and dialysis treatments.

"So my job is not to worry about those people. I'll never convince them that they should take personal responsibility and care for their lives," Romney decreed, undoubtedly more in sorrow than in anger.

Then, Republican Senate candidates in tight races began distancing themselves from the top of the ticket.

Ann Romney suggested Mitt was "taken out of context," in what was undoubtedly meant as a helpful comment.

"All of us make mistakes," said President Barack Obama, in what probably wasn't.

"Obviously inarticulate," decreed Paul Ryan, popping up from a gopher hole somewhere in Nevada.

The fundraiser, a \$50,000-a-pop sit-down dinner, was hosted by Marc Leder, a financier who The New York Post reported as having a "wild party" last summer in the Hamptons "where guests cavorted nude in the pool" while "scantily dressed Russians danced on platforms." You cannot blame Romney for that. If presidential candidates had to avoid all multimillionaires who held parties with naked guests and Russians on platforms, there

would be no money for misleading TV commercials.

The video was a reminder of how ghastly this business of running for president can be. The guests seemed more interested in the breadbasket than the candidate. Romney was blathering away in the manner of somebody trying to stay awake during the 12th hour of a cross-country drive.

On Tuesday, moving to tamp down criticism that he was a conversational disaster area, Romney told Fox's Neil Cavuto: "Well, we were, of course, talking about a campaign and how he's going to get close to half the votes. I'm going to get half the vote, approximately. I hope – I want to get 50.1 percent or more."

With that out of the way, Romney explained that his real point had not been to criticize people who don't pay income taxes, but merely to point out that he wanted them to make more money. "I think people would like to be paying taxes," added the quarter-billionaire whose own eagerness to be part of the solution is a matter of public record. How did he let things slip out of control? Maybe the answer lies back with that Ann-and-Mitt interview, which was on "Live With Kelly and Michael." Asked about his preferences when it came to heroines of low-end reality TV shows, the future presidential candidate enthusiastically announced: "I'm kind of a Snooki fan. Look how tiny she's gotten. She's lost weight and she's energetic. I mean, just her sparkplug personality is kind of fun."

It could be worse. He could have announced that he enjoys spending his free hours watching "Hoarders" marathons. But, still, it's weird that Mitt Romney appears to think a lot about Snooki. Is it possible that while he's being dragged around from one fundraiser to the next, he spends his spare time watching "Jersey Shore" reruns in the limo?

That would explain so much. □



Italian fashion designer Giorgio Armani poses with models after presenting his Emporio Armani Women's Spring-Summer 2013 fashion collection, during the fashion week in Milan, Italy, Thursday, Sept. 20, 2012.

(AP Photo/Antonio Calanni)

Everything coming up flowers on Milan runway

**COLLEEN BARRY
DANIELA PETROFF
Associated Press**

MILAN (AP) — Everything is coming up flowers on the Milan runway.

Floral references during the second day of Milan Fashion Week womenswear previews on Thursday ranged from the graphic motif to romantic bouquets or jungle foliage.

It's not a sexy season. Collections for next summer are more romantic than racy and sheer fabrics suggest more than they show. The silhouette is loose and flowing — with skirt lengths both baby-doll short and granny-dress long.

Trousers, too, are wide with the 1960s palazzo pajama making a comeback.

Sporty shorts and pedal pushers are often paired with feminine blousy tops. A pastel palate kept the looks demure, while gold, silver and bronze add flash.

Bows and ribbons lend romance to the season, cinching waistlines, gracing floppy hats or wrapping an ankle.

But the flower grabs the headlines in most of the shows — setting a wide

range of moods.

EMPORIO ARMANI

Emporio Armani is Giorgio Armani's second line aimed at a younger client, and that is just where the "maestro" was headed in his latest spring-summer collection.

Teenage models strolled down the runway in sweet pastel silk shorts, their curly hair brushing the shoulder of the matching tapered jacket. Ballerina flats tied in a demure silk ankle bow, dainty leather driving gloves, and a sporty pastel bucket bag completed the ingenuite look.

In his show notes, the designer called his spring style "clean."

Natural colors with touches of opaque gold and bronze underlined the down to earth feel of the collection. There is a good deal of layering in the Emporio collection, with fluid knit-wear, silk tops and jackets with small shoulders and a barely marked waist combining with either a short skirt or a pair of soft straight pants gathered at the bottom, to create a well put together, young look.

MAX MARA

Whether in leopard prints or safari wear, the Max Mara woman is the hunter not the hunted.

The Max Mara collection evokes the jungle, where foliage prints provide natural camouflage for the animalistic spirit ready to spring — a mood captured in curve-hugging dresses in

stripes of spotted and floral prints.

The silhouette is both free, with loose blouses of light fabric, and controlled, with fitted skirts that often finish below the knee. Safari touches are present throughout, including large pockets, rolled-up sleeves and button tabs on shoulders.

Blouson tops have large, lightweight hoods, for taking quick cover to scurry away, unrecognized.

In keeping with the theme, the collection's palette is rooted in earthy tones like camel and olive green, complemented by leopard, floral and sometimes plaid prints as well as icier tones of blue and green. □



Models wear creations part of the Max Mara Women's Spring-Summer 2013 fashion collection, during the fashion week in Milan, Italy, Thursday, Sept. 20, 2012.

(AP Photo/Giuseppe Aresu)